November 1997

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Deaf Life

Adventures in cyberspace:

Internet co-creator Vint Cerf and techno-enthusiast Sigrid Cerf talk about their lives

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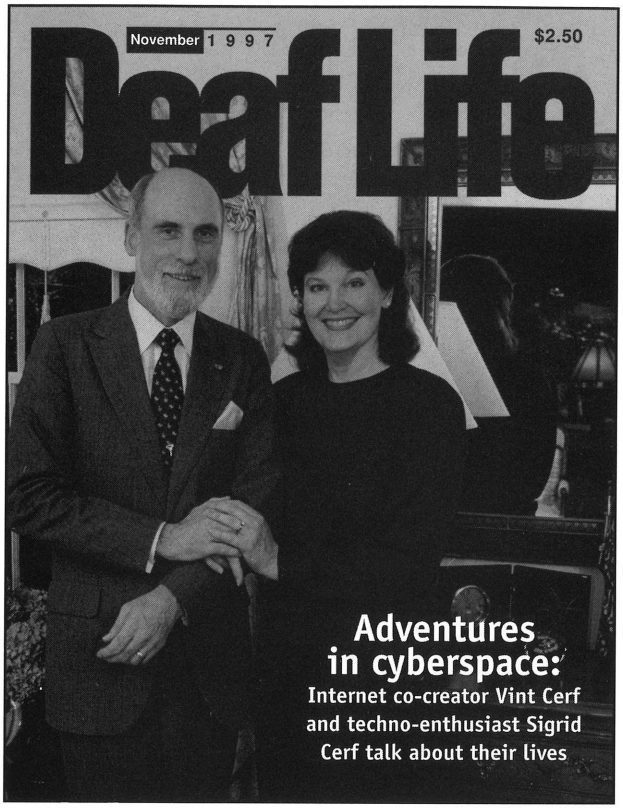
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COVER

DESIGN BY MATTHEW S. MOORE
PHOTO: MARK J. HARDING

IT'S FAIRLY WELL KNOWN that Vinton G. Cerf, a co-creator of the Internet, has been hard-of-hearing since infancy. Was Cerf consciously motivated to help construct the Internet because there were just too many obstacles to conventional telephone communication? That point can be argued, but what is inarguable is that Cerf helped make possible two very important media that we already take for granted—the World Wide Web and E-mail. Sigrid Thorstenberg Cerf, who had been profoundly deaf most of her life, recently received a cochlear implant—after investigating Websites and contacting others via E-mail! Both talk about growing up deaf and mainstreamed, their careers, and how the Internet is expanding our communication options. What seemed unimaginable 5 years ago is a reality now. And what does the future hold? 10

Publisher's Note

The Internet is becoming an increasingly important part of our lives.

Vinton G. Cerf, a co-creator of the Internet and Gallaudet University's newest Board member, has a progressive hearing loss. (He can be classified as "hard-of-hearing" or "deaf," depending on how strictly you want to interpret the particulars.) He was fully mainstreamed and developed some clever coping techniques for social interaction, but didn't like to use the telephone. Did Cerf's deafness motivate him to develop the TC/IP protocol with Robert Kahn? Was he, perhaps, subconsciously propelled by a desire to achieve a barrier-free medium of communication? Having a significant hearing loss may have played some part in his choice of career. But as he has said, he enjoys bringing people together. The Internet has the potential to do this on a global scale—more effectively than relay services and TTYs. In a sense, the Internet is the great technological equalizer—it levels the barriers between deaf and hearing. It makes us all equal. As a Web user, Cerf is concerned about inaccessible voice/audio technologies, and is a strong advocate on online captioning.

I find it amusing that Vint Cerf and Sigrid Thorstenberg met through their shared hearing-aid dealer. (When was the last time *your* hearing-aid dealer did something romantic for you?) Sigrid's background is in the visual arts—interior design. I enjoyed "listening" to what she had to say. As for the Internet—it changed her life, too!

Matthew S. Moore

CONTENTS

"ENJOYING A NEW STAGE OF LIFE"

■ With warmth, humor, and joy, Sigrid Thorstenberg Cerf talks about her own experiences—growing up mainstreamed, developing her own coping techniques, her career, family, and busy everyday life, and her new cochlear implant. **25**

READERS' VIEWPOINT

DEAFVIEW

MIXED FEELINGS

■ We received 812 responses to our question, "Are hard-of-hearing people a part of the Deaf community? The responses are mixed: 80% of the respondents say yes; 15% are not sure, and 5% say no. One reader notes that some HOH people have a self-identity problem that reflects "their difficulty accepting the 'Deaf' part of themselves." Another asks, "Do they see *themselves* as part of the Deaf community? That is *my* question!" Another takes a philosophical view: "People are people no matter what their handicap is." But one HOH reader insists that HOH will never be part of the community. Having experienced rude treatment by ASL-Deaf people, this reader says, "I don't like their community at all." **30**

■ Letters 4
■ For Hearing People Only 8
■ **DEAF LIFE Plus** . ..... **Insert**
■ FaxView 30

Deaf Life

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PUBLISHER
Matthew S. Moore

CO-EDITORS-IN-CHIEF
Matthew S. Moore
Linda Levitan

COPY EDITOR
Linda Levitan

PRODUCTION MANAGER
Charles F. Bancroft

DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR
David M. Sell

ART DIRECTORS
Matthew S. Moore
Darin W. Turner

CONTRIBUTING ARTIST
Tony "Mac" McGregor

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Diane White

COLUMNISTS
Michele Listisard
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PROTO-X

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LETTERS

What the doctor ordered

Dear Matthew:

I think it's time that I stop going over to the Fremont Library just to get a free peek at **Deaf Life**.

You certainly have the best (only) Deaf publication worth reading and that is at the level of an educated adult (but that is another topic/controversy).

At any rate, I should have my very own copies to hold and cherish (and then put in my waiting room for my Deaf patients).

I don't know if I ever mentioned to you that I formed a group of hearing-impaired physicians about five years ago. The first name was the DMA (Deaf Medical Association)—which drew a lot of flak from those who felt they were not "deaf" or perhaps culturally deaf. So politics being the science of the possible and the only possible way to get this organization to be possible was to find a more widely acceptable name, hence the Society of Hearing Impaired Physicians (SHIP). (No, we will not form a group for technologists!)

Anyway, SHIP will be having its first, formal meeting in Boston and [that] will be from November 14-16. So far we have 17 people registered. Since most of them are medical students and medical residents, I am extra excited. Lots of young blood to take over this organization and make it grow and help the many hearing-impaired people out there who are having difficulties in learning/training or daily practice of Medicine. There is some possibility of even getting written up by the **New York Times**.

Congratulations for your courage to print so many, so controversial articles. The first Deaf Muckraker!

[I'm ordering a] two-year subscription . . .

Frank Peter Hochman, M.D.
Fremont, California

The Editors reply: *Thanks! We hope that "SHIP fever" spreads throughout the community and that a lot of young people catch it.*

"He will be missed by many"

Thank you for your time in responding to my previous request of the March 1997 issue featuring Mark Branson. I am currently enrolled at Collin County Community College in Plano, Texas in the Interpreter Program and had the privilege to meet Mark Branson on several occasions as well as attend a few lectures he gave to some of our ASL classes. He was quite a remarkable person, achieving a great deal in his short lifetime. He touched many lives both in the hearing world and the Deaf world. He will be missed by many, I am sure. I feel privileged to have met him and this is one reason I really want to have a copy of this issue. I would like to know more about Mark and his life.

I have enclosed my check for prepayment for one copy of the March 1997 issue. Once again, thank you for your time and personal touch in meeting my needs. Thanks!

Tonya Toney
Plano, Texas

"A dishonest description"

[To the NAD:]

In the August issue of **Deaf Life** there is a critique by Suzy Rosen, Legal Counsel for Government Affairs, NAD. She states that, quote, "the National Association of the Deaf, the nation's largest and oldest consumer-based organization which safeguards the accessi-

LETTERS

bility and civil rights of 28 million deaf and hard-of-hearing Americans."

I agree that it is the "oldest and largest," but it is not the primary organization representing the majority of the hard-of-hearing population.

I am an 85-year-old adventitiously and profoundly deaf individual dependent on a body hearing aid and lip (or speech) reading. I am an NAD member and an active member and local officer of a younger and smaller group, Self Help for Hard of Hearing People. It is the current advocate for the actual hard-of-hearing individuals, by far the greatest proportion of the 28 million hearing-impaired population. I have been active in a local "Deaf" organization in the past until realizing they wanted only help not involving self. I find the NAD using "and Hearing Impaired" a dishonest description of its major advocacy.

I am also objecting to the repeatedly careless use of "Deaf" currently accepted as referring to the Deaf Community, a relatively small group of which I am not and will never be a member, and "deaf," loosely meaning anyone with hearing impairment of any degree. I do not expect the general public to comprehend the vast difference between "Deaf" and "deaf," the Deaf Community will continue to ride on the coat-tails of all the hearing-impaired and still call themselves "unimpaired." Loss of one of the special senses is not redefinable, only acceptable.

(As a mobility-restricted individual, I hope deafness is never, ever a reason for a special parking permit!)

As a physician for over 61 years, I have followed the maxim "Be not the first by whom the new is tried nor yet the last to lay the old aside." I wonder if someday it will be possible to make more of the "sightless" "see," and that there will be those who will decry the loss of the blind population and entrenched schools for the blind!

Precision in identifying degrees of hearing loss is currently chaotic. I suggest that "Deaf" be editorially restricted to the Deaf Community. If the word occurs at the beginning of a sentence, substitute "DEAF." The honestly "hearing-impaired" may be called "deaf," but should be studiously avoided, preferably HoH and not used as a statistic to aid the ASL Deaf.

The opposition of the NAD position stand to cochlear implants in children disregards current knowledge of the age of acquisition of language. No medical procedure is complication-free! Name one! The argument that there are improvements being made, so wait, is fallacious! By the time the "superb CI" is available the current youngsters may be my age of 85.

Frederick A. Rose
Bellingham, Washington

"It's high time for *hearing* people to start listening"

Re: August 1997
"Deafview" question
"Is the cochlear implant destroying the future of the deaf culture?"

Yes. I feel that cochlear implants is a way the hearing community is saying that hearing life is better. And as a hearing person that disturbs me. I am finding out that the deaf community has a very rich culture. That should never be taken away from anyone. It is very sad that in this day and age of accepting people for their diversity that the deaf community is still expected to abandon their culture and become part of the hearing world. It is high time for the hearing world to stop taking the easy way out and start listening to other points of

LETTERS

view. Not just hear the words, but really stop and think about other people's feeling[s] and wishes. Only the deaf community knows what is best for them. They should be allowed to decide what is best for themselves just like the rest of us in the hearing world and not be forced to do what we (the hearing world) wants them to. Who's to say what's better and what's not?

Shelley M. Arellano
Palatine, Illinois

Mountain & molehills: epilogue

I was looking through the September issue of **DEAF LIFE**, and noticed a letter, "Mountain out of Molehills."

I am a theatrical agent in Los Angeles and represent Anthony Natale and booked Anthony on the "ELLEN" show. At the time of the filming, I was told, which I passed on to my client, that there was talk of possibly bringing Anthony back for another episode. At that time it was not a rumor, but an idea being considered. So to put this matter to bed, this was all factual information at the time and was not a publicity hype.

The letter, I felt, by its implications, implied more MOUNTAINS than MOLEHILLS and I hope this type of miscommunication is now settled once and for all.

Sidney Craig
The Craig Agency
Los Angeles, California

On Princess Diana, paparazzi, and media bias

My wife and I took it real hard to learn that Princess Diana had been killed in an automobile accident in Paris. In a way, we were thankful it wasn't an assassination. *That* would have caused an international furor and jeopardized French-English diplomatic relations. Our hearts go out to Diana's sons William and Henry, and to her family and friends.

It seems that lots of people have been blaming the chauffeur, Henri Paul, "the drunken driver," for the accident. Well, I for one don't believe it. If Paul had been too drunk to drive, why didn't they have an accident just after leaving the Ritz Hotel instead of some miles away in the tunnel? Sure, sure, Paul was found to have alcohol in his blood, but so what? Was his drinking *really* the fatal factor?

Paul was French, and as we all know, the French drink wine as if it were water. If I were to drink the same amount of wine at one meal as an ordinary French citizen does, I'd pass out (or do embarrassingly worse!) before I reached my fourth, or even my third, glass!

True, I didn't witness the accident. But the real cause, I believe, was the paparazzi. I blame them. Some ten photographers riding motorcycles were reported to have chased the Mercedes driven by Paul and containing Diana, her boyfriend Dodi Fayed, his bodyguard Trevor Rees-Jones, flashing and clicking away, trying to get too close to them, maybe even momentarily blinding Paul.

For what? To get an "exclusive" photo.

You know the kind of photos those paparazzi love to get—celebrities scratching themselves to get at an itch (especially around the crotch), looking drunk or druggy, sticking their tongues out, flipping the bird, or making an angry face. Paparazzi think nothing of shov-

LETTERS

ing their cameras right into people's faces, just to get a nice juicy close-up. And who'd pay handsomely for photos like these? The crapola tabloids!

Can a bunch of photographers really blind a driver? Well, I bet that no one (except a blind person) would be able to stand straight if they were forced to walk through a wall of strobe lights. The police investigation continues.

All during September, my wife and I watched the daily news. The hearing-dominated media focused on gathering stories from hearing people who had known Princess Diana. What about the deaf? Diana associated with the British Deaf community as long as she was able, learned British Sign Language, and communicated with them directly, without difficulty.

More and more new books seem to be coming out about the Royal Family, Princess Diana, Prince Charles, and their sons. It's been a booming industry, but now it's a mega-booming one. Needless to say, these are all by and from hearing people. The authors of these stories, I bet, don't even mention Diana's learning BSL, her relationship with the British Deaf community, or her Deaf friends. Will they bother to interview any Deaf people? Ha! No, I don't care to read the stories or any biography of Princess Diana, since they weren't done with her approval and don't have her blessing.

Why can't these yahoos (hearing-dominated media) ever get the story from the people who *are* deaf? I am sure the British Deaf people have something to say about Diana—what she meant to them, and how they felt about her. If the media ever do such a story, interview any deaf people, or gather their signed testimony, I'm afraid that it's going to be like too much other media coverage of Deaf people—skimpy, biased, and unsatisfactory to the Deafies. Just like the hearing stories.

Steven R. Sandy
Columbus, Ohio

✏ *This letter was sent to several other publications. Our version is a free adaptation of the original.*

Editors' note: *There has been positive mention of Princess Diana's relationship with the Deaf community, in magazine articles and books published during Diana's career as Princess of Wales. Reportage of her funeral noted that representatives of the Deaf community were present, and that there were two sign-language interpreters at the service in Westminster Abbey. The real experts, of course, are the members and leaders of the British Deaf community. We'd love to see what they have to say. Was Diana's attitude of interest, concern, and respect typical of that of the British aristocracy? Of the Royal Family? We'd like to know!*

The Deaf community was just one of the many groups Diana cared about. She was Patron of the British Deaf Association—but also Patron of over a hundred other organizations and "nonprofits" as well. But her interest in Deaf issues, BSL, and the well-being of Deaf schoolchildren were part of the whole picture. Ignore those and you end up with an incomplete view.

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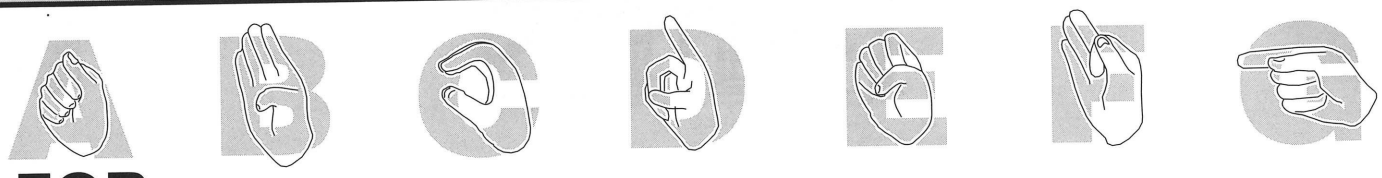

FOR HEARING PEOPLE ONLY™

Why are deaf people always asking "follow-up" questions—"Did you do this?" "Did you finish that?" It drives me nuts!

This is an everyday situation that occurs within families or between roommates or housemates. We're thinking specifically of households, in which two or more persons, related or not, share the quarters and the responsibilities of housekeeping, and at least one of them is Deaf. Dorm life involves two or more persons sharing a room. (We're using the term "roommate" to mean "housemate" as well. Even though this term may not be strictly accurate, it's common usage among those who share large houses and have their own rooms. It also applies to regular-family-style households.)

Anyone who shares living quarters engages in what is grandly termed social interactions—getting along with each other, and getting tasks done. This inevitably entails asking others to do something for us (or for the household). This can be a point of contention (as when roomies do not get along well), or an opportunity to help keep the social machinery (and the household) functioning smoothly.

When a hearing person asks a roommate to close or lock the door, open the window, draw the blinds, turn on the bathtub faucet or air conditioner, or switch off the TV (etcetera), s/he can hear it being done. Now, supposing it's a deaf, not a hearing, person who's doing the asking. Example: While washing the dishes, Jan, who's Deaf, asks her hearing roommate Kim (who's just arrived home) to please lock the front door. Jan slips her hands out of the soapy dishwater so she can sign her request clearly. Kim walks out of the kitchen and returns a few moments later. Jan asks, "Did you lock the door"? Kim says, "Yes." To save time, Kim will go directly to Jan as soon as she returns, volunteering the information: "Done, finished." ("Yes, I did it.") Kim then gets an affirmation from Jan: an "OK" sign or an ASL facial twitch, shorthand for "Thanks!"

Those who are accustomed to

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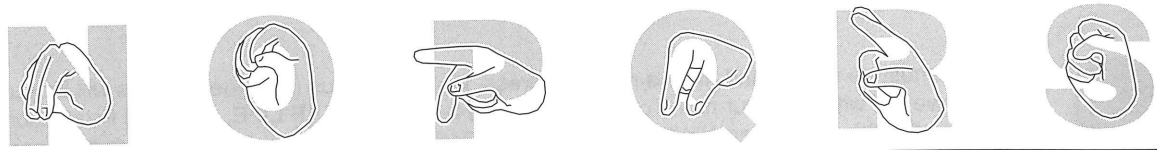

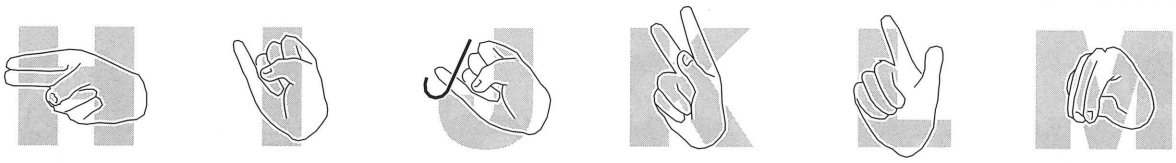

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Deaf ways become so used to such interactions, they don't think twice about them. They instinctively recognize the logic behind them. Reporting back to a roomie who asks them to do something is a part of friendly everyday communication, just as much as checking the stove and faucets or bolting the doors at night are part of the daily household routine.

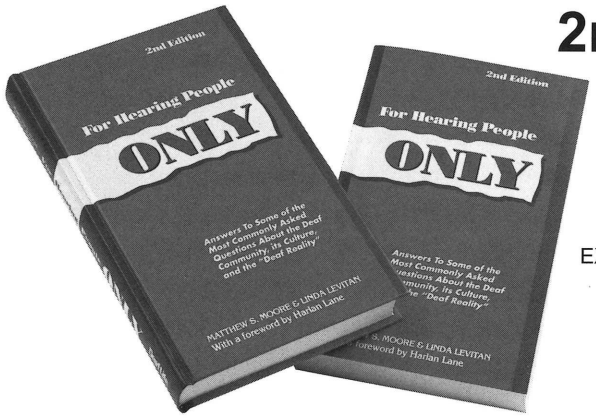
But if Kim isn't used to being "quizzed" every time she's asked to do something, she may find it irritating. Replay this scenario with the same roommates. Only this time, Kim is unaccustomed to living with Deaf roomies. When Jan asks her, "Did you lock the door?", Kim is apt to get annoyed: "Why do you ask? Don't you trust me?" Which doesn't make for comfortable interactions at all. It may even provoke an argument. And, yes, this does happen—even between friends. Even between siblings.

One Deaf man whose sister graduated from an interpreter-training program says, "When I ask her to do something and she comes back, she never tells me she's done it. I have to ask her. I get *very* pissed off about that, because she really should know."

Some hearing roommates overdo it. Example: Dan (who's Deaf) is vacuuming the front hall when his roommate Jim (who's hearing) comes in. "Please close the door," Dan signs. Jim closes the door in full view of Dan, then says, "Finished!" Dan's dour response is likely to be, "I'm deaf, but I'm not blind. I could see it."

This, by the way, is a habit Deaf people pick up in institutions. A dorm parent or teacher (especially one who's Deaf!) will ask the student to do something: "Would you close the door?" or "Please turn the light out in the supply closet." When the student returns, s/he volunteers the information: "Done, finished." Of course, s/he could be lying—but that's another story entirely!

FOR HEARING PEOPLE ONLY—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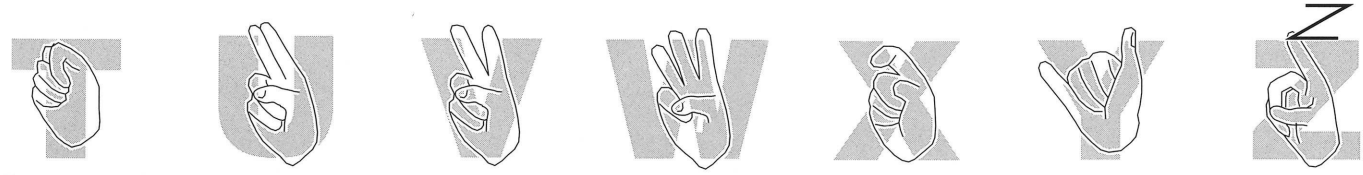

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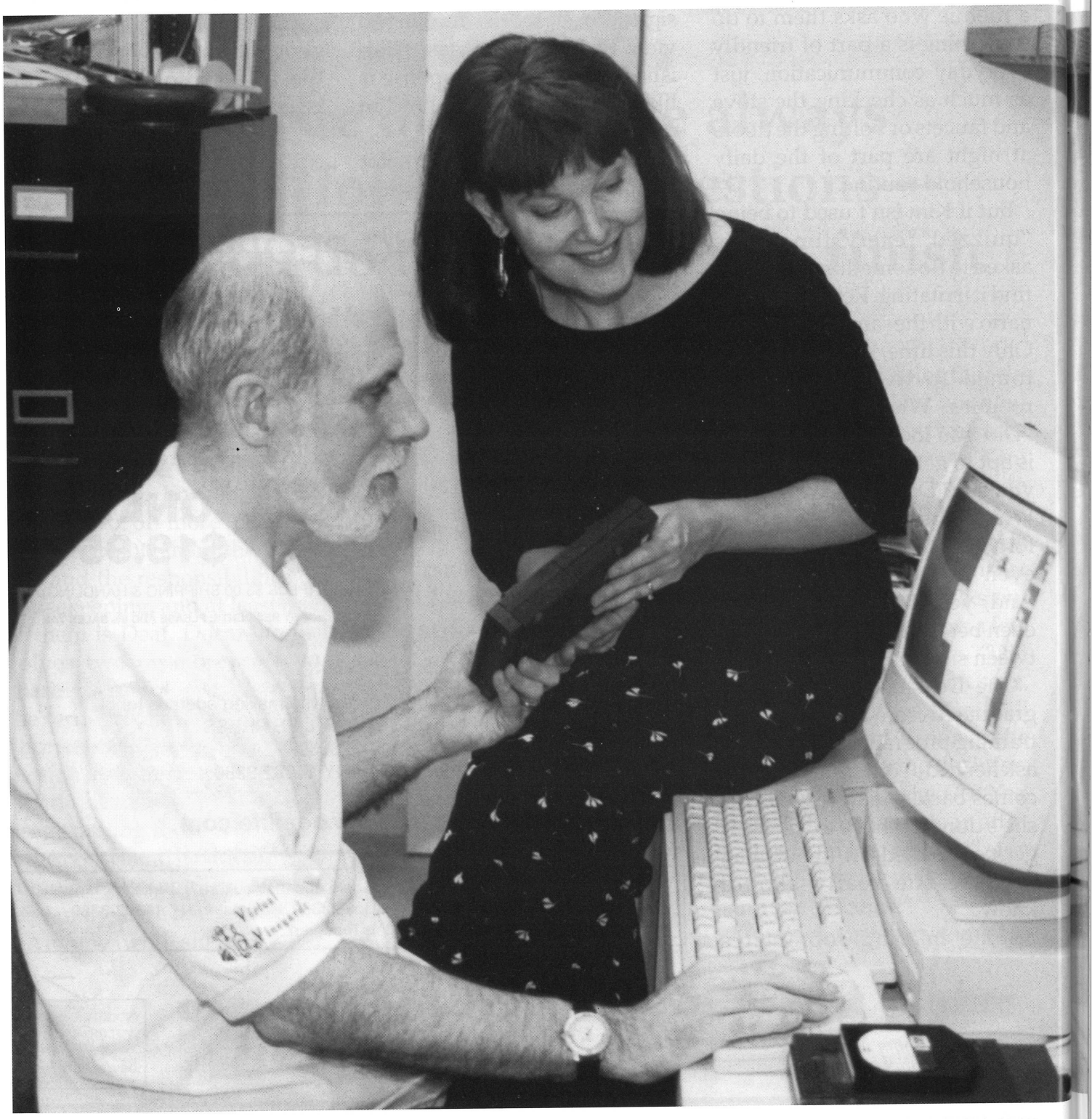
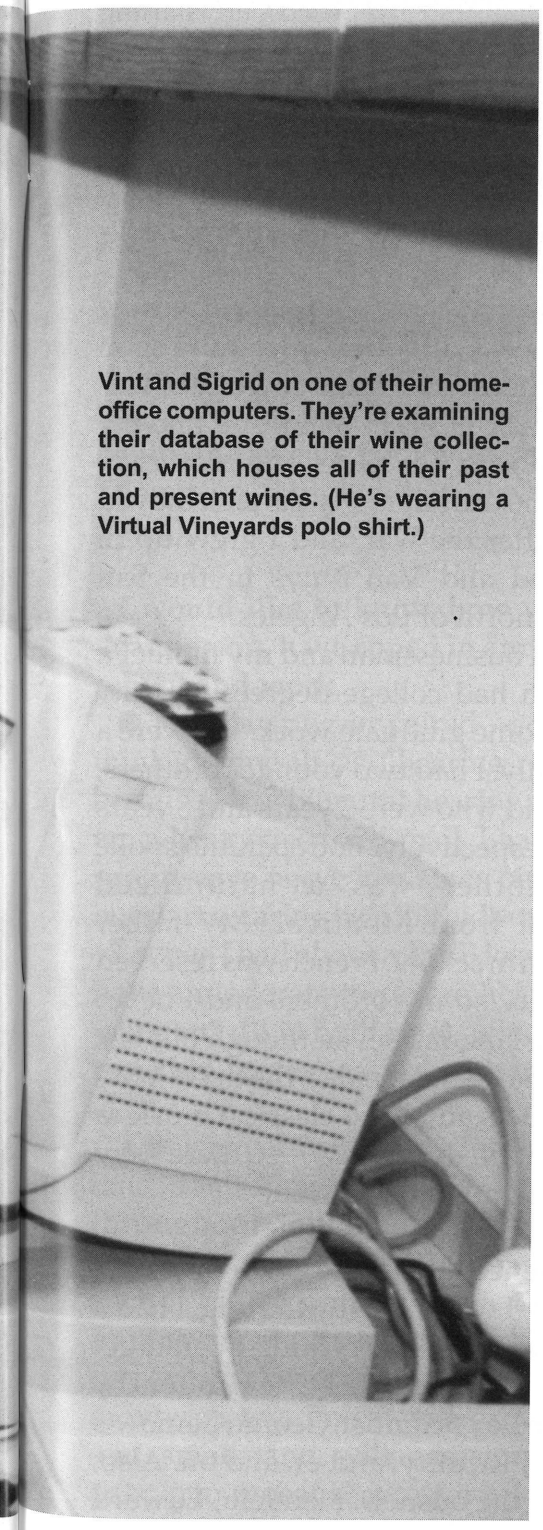


igrid Cerf:

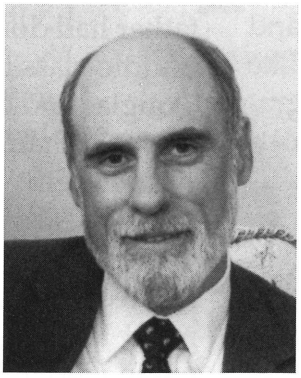
the adventures of an Internet pioneer and a fiftysomething teenager

Vint Cerf: Exploring the connections



Vint and Sigrid on one of their home-office computers. They're examining their database of their wine collection, which houses all of their past and present wines. (He's wearing a Virtual Vineyards polo shirt.)

Take away Bill Gates, and the computer and networking revolutions would be largely unchanged, if not improved. Gates rides the wave and banks the profits. But Cerf and Kahn, more than anyone else, created the wave. Without them, and the guiding philosophy of other '60s grad students, life in this free-wheeling Information Age would be very different.—John Adam, "Geek Gods," **Washingtonian**, November 1996



With "Internet mania" in full swing, one of its pioneer developers, a hard-of-hearing man named Vinton G. Cerf, is finding himself a bit uncomfortable with the tag "Father of the Internet."

"There have been many 'fathers of the Internet,'" he says modestly. "My long-time collaborator, Bob Kahn, and I teamed up to write and develop TCP/IP, the Internet protocol. But thousands of hard-working and gifted computer engineers share the distinction of creating what the Internet is today. I'm just the happy father of two grown sons."

Looking through Websites on the Net, we found evidence that Cerf has indeed been heavily involved in many ways. He's achieved legendary status, and is enjoying a couple of new job titles and a large and enthusiastic following of Web-users, students, and fans. In a **CNET News.com** article (appropriately published on the Web!), Nick Wingfield noted that MCI "jumped at the opportunity to rehire him" in 1994, "as if it were a record company presented with the chance to hire Elvis as a vice president." When he came to

NTID on October 1, 1996, to give a presentation, he autographed floppy disks and the underside of a keyboard, adding cheerful comments like "See you in cyberspace!"

Cerf has been moderately deaf since birth, with a progressive hearing loss. Born 6 weeks premature, he was placed in an oxygen-enhanced incubator, which damaged his hearing. He was a quiet, observant child who developed so slowly that he was originally thought to be mentally deficient. He had a bit of early after-school speechreading training. But instinctively, he developed his own coping techniques. He excelled in mathematics, but was drawn to the emerging field of computer science. While in high school, he had a sudden revelation: "the whole universe was hooked together." In 1965, while working at IBM, he met Sigrid Thorstenberg, an illustrator, through their shared hearing-aid dealer, and they were married soon afterwards. They live in Annandale, Virginia, enjoy collecting fine wines, and drive a Jaguar with a license plate that reads "CERFS UP."

Vint's a dynamic, intense, enthusiastic, entertaining, and enlightening speaker, whether discussing the history of the ARPANET (the precursor to the Internet) or the "Internet goldrush," the phenomenal growth of Internet/Web traffic and its reach into our lives, making projections and statistics come to life, or touching on topics like multicasting technology, geopolitics, cryptography, censorship, solutions to the address shortage, and future expansion. He also has an MCI Website where he answers questions from visitors about bandwidth-eating applications, compression, real-time protocols, top-level domain names, Integrated Services Digital Network (ISDN), digital broadcast, and other technical ticklers and knotty problems. He has fans who are curious about his deafness, or his favorite music and books. He's articulate and fun to read. A few of his comments are excerpted below.

He holds, or has held, an impressive variety of honorary and advisory posts. (Is there an institution or organization that wouldn't be delighted to have Vint Cerf on its advisory board?) He recently joined Gallaudet University's Board of Trustees—a shrewd move on Gally's part!

In his **Washingtonian** profiles of Cerf and Kahn, John Adam quoted Bob Braden of USC's Information Sciences Institute: "I don't think there are many fields where people have an affection for a leader like we do with Vint." As Cerf told Adam, "More than anything, I enjoy putting people together."

Mini-interview

Comments marked by a triangle (▲) are from our own E-mail interviews with Vint and Sigrid Cerf (starting May 1997). Those marked with a diamond (◆) are taken from the lecture given at NTID on October 1, 1996. Those marked with a spot (●) are taken from MCI's "Cerf's Up!" Website.

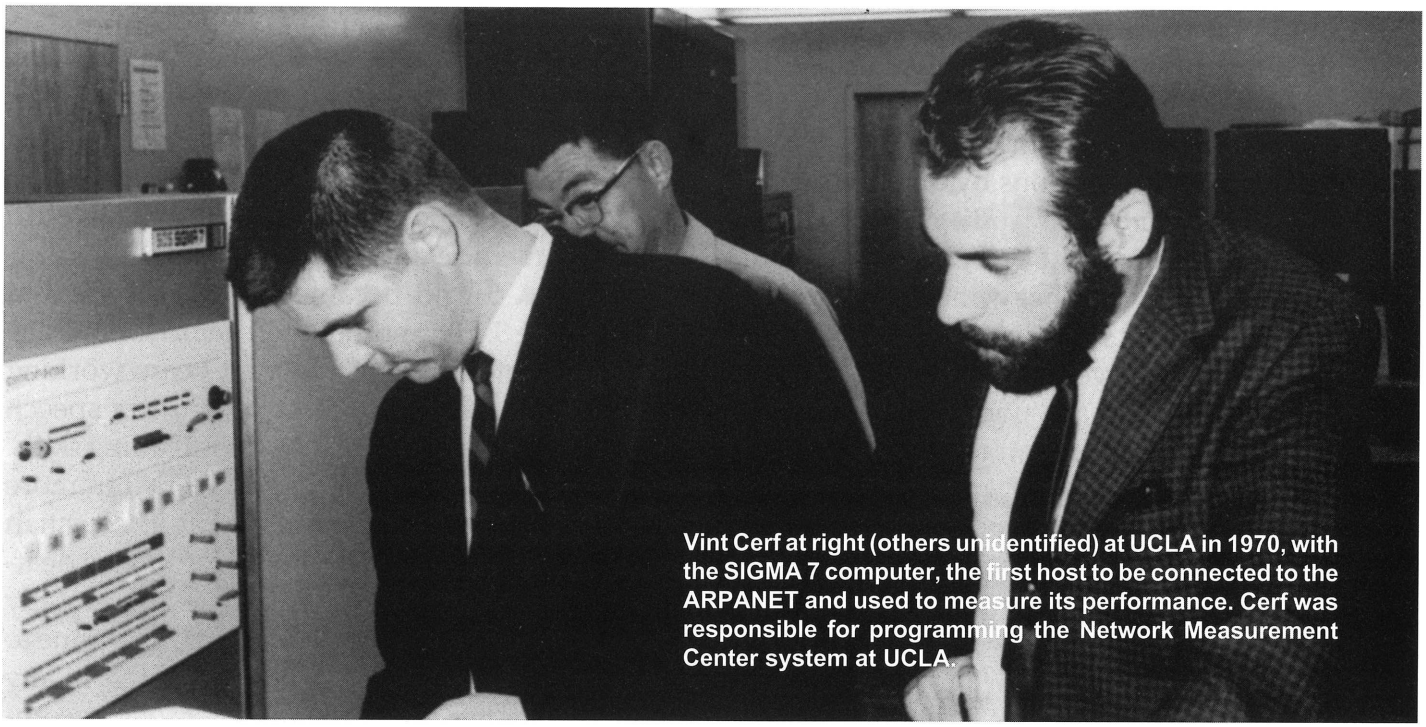
Where are you from? From what sort of background?

▲ I was born in New Haven, Connecticut, at Yale Hospital in 1943, although my family soon relocated to Southern California. My father was away serving in the U.S. Navy in Europe, and my mother moved in with her father and mother in New Haven for the duration. My parents moved to Los Angeles after the war, and I grew up in North Hollywood and Van Nuys in the San Fernando Valley north of Los Angeles.

My father was a businessman and my mother a homemaker. Both had college degrees and my father had done some graduate work. We were a middle-class family. I had two younger brothers, Douglas and David who were 5 years and 8 years younger than I, respectively. Both parents spoke French—my mother was a naturalized French-Canadian from Montreal. My father learned his French in school. French was reserved for keeping secrets, so my brothers and I never really learned the language even though our last name, Cerf, is French (and means "the deer"). My parents were readers and liked classical music (a love which I maintain to this day)—so there were always books and music [in my life].

Were you a science nut?

▲ Yes, by age 10 I was bitten by the bug. I had a chemistry set, and I read everything I could get my hands on about science. **Microbe Hunters** by Paul DeKruif, **The Boy Scientist**, George Gamow's **One, Two, Three, Infinity**, and on and on. Also, science fiction by the bushels. Heinlein, Edward



Vint Cerf at right (others unidentified) at UCLA in 1970, with the SIGMA 7 computer, the first host to be connected to the ARPANET and used to measure its performance. Cerf was responsible for programming the Network Measurement Center system at UCLA.

E. Smith, Asimov, Bradbury. And **Oz** Books—every one of them by L. Frank Baum and even some by Ruth Plumly Thompson (but I didn't like these as much).

I would like to know how you, as a deaf person, have coped in and outside school and work.

● I am hearing-impaired—actually, I think of myself as "hearing-repaired" because I use binaural hearing aids and am a heavy user of E-mail. I have had a progressive nerve loss since birth. I did not start wearing hearing aids until I was 13. when I had about a 25 dB loss. I [now] have a moderate-to-severe hearing loss (about 65 dB in both ears), which is corrected in large measure with in-the-ear aids.

▲● I never relied on sign language (and don't know it today). I managed throughout my school days to stay mainstreamed—but I don't consider this such a big accomplishment, thanks to improvements in hearing-aid technology over the years. I do not use notetakers or interpreters. I meet with groups large and small, and will occasionally ask people to repeat if necessary. I use telephone and videoconferencing as well as E-mail.

E-mail helps me when phone calls would be difficult. I use the telephone, have group meetings, and perform more or less normally using the hearing aids. When I give talks to large audiences, I use a radio microphone so I can rove around and be close to people asking questions, like TV talk-show hosts who roam in the audience. That way I can speechread if I have to.

The only advantage [to having a hearing loss] might be the ability to turn hearing aids down to adjust to loud ambient° noise (like the screaming kid in the next seat on the airplane). Other than that, I would say it's not really an advantage.

"Because of my hearing loss, I had a personal interest in developing E-mail."

One slightly perplexed note: you describe yourself as hard-of-hearing. Yet in your Website, you describe your hearing loss as "moderate to severe," which puts it beyond the "hard-of-hearing" range and more into the "deaf" range.

Sigrid: Vint's hearing loss might defy absolute categorization in the usual "hard-of-hearing" sense. For most purposes he defines his loss as moderate. I

think (and Vint, correct me if I'm wrong) he uses the term "severe" for the unusual challenges when he's in a noisy environment, or in a lecture room where he manages to answer questions by an audience by going into the auditorium, Oprah-style. Sometimes he can't understand some people with heavy accents, and on rare occasions someone will need to repeat something over the telephone. He's what I'd consider an "unconscious lipreader," and we usually, but not always, try to catch each other's attention before we talk to each other. But when he takes off his programmable in-the-ear aids at night, there's some tinnitus (head ringing) in his ears, he's tired, and it's hard to carry on more than a simple conversation with him. After a good night's sleep his hearing acuity° is sharp, so without his aids he can awaken to the sound of the alarm clock or the phone. Vint is a big ***Star Trek*** fan, and he will watch the close-captioned series with or without his hearing aids. If he were watching it after he awakened in the morning, he could probably [understand] the dialogue without the captions, but of course with the hearing aid turned on. Apparently his hearing acuity depends in part on how alert he is. I know mine does.

Vint: [Because of my hearing loss,] I had a personal interest in [developing] E-mail; I was glad to have its assistance in dealing with complex projects. Things in writing can often be a lot clearer than oral renderings. More important, E-mail overcomes ā lot of time-zone barriers to oral communication and projects [that require frequent telephone interchange].

● Laptop [computers] have had a strong impact on my working style. I never go anywhere without [one] and I am not surprised that these devices have become so indispensable. [When I travel,] I carry a laptop, tape recorder, lots of batteries and rechargers, pager, portable telephone, equipment for power and telephone-modem use in other countries.

"People are, at least on the average, spending as much time on the Internet as they are looking at video rentals."

Sigrid has a cochlear implant, which benefits her. Were you told that you were a good candidate, too? Or do you have some residual hearing that would preclude an implant?

▲ Sigrid became profoundly deaf at age 3. Her mother took her to John Tracy Clinic in 1946 and spent years working with her to help her retain her speech and help her sharpen her lipreading skills. In Sigrid's case things were far more complex. Her mother was a Christian Scientist who routinely denied the deafness, but obviously must not have totally ignored it or she would not have gone to the Tracy Clinic in the first place. In any event, Sigrid became a most accomplished lipreader.

▲● She was ruled a candidate for cochlear implant [over] a year ago. [The surgery was] performed at Johns Hopkins University and it works! Once this device (Advanced Bionics' Clarion) was activated, she quickly found it possible to make telephone calls without any [relay] assistance or to watch television, listen to music and recorded books, go to plays, and listen to lectures. She uses the phone, listens to TV, goes to the movies. She can now hear in crowded, noisy meetings, carries on conversations in noisy restaurants . . . really, a major change in lifestyle.

I am not a candidate as my hearing isn't yet sufficiently diminished to justify the expense and the risk.

Is there a real Internet revolution? Has it begun? Is the real revolution yet to come? Naturally, I want to know about the origins of the Internet and your work on the ARPANET.

▲● Yes, there really is a revolution. It started in 1961-66. The ARPANET (1969-1990), the predecessor to the Internet, was the first large-scale manifestation. It was based on a then very

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new and controversial technology called *packet switching*. That idea had been invented by Leonard Kleinrock at MIT, Paul Baran at RAND Corporation, and Donald W. Davies at the National Physical Laboratory in England—roughly in 1961, 1962, and 1965 respectively. Each worked independently and each realized the potential of this new form of data-switching.

The U.S. Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency began a project to develop a wide-area computer network based on this technology. That project was initiated by Robert Taylor, then the director of the Information Processing Technology Office at ARPA, and later led by Dr. Lawrence Roberts, who succeeded Taylor in that position. The project was implemented by Bolt Beranek and Newman in Cambridge, Massachusetts, under the leadership of Frank Heart.

I finished a Bachelor of Science in Mathematics from Stanford in 1965, then went to work for IBM as a systems engineer running the QUIKTRAN timesharing system in 1965. I returned to school at UCLA in 1967. I finished my Ph.D. in 1972 in Computer Science at UCLA, and while I was there, I worked on the host-level protocols for the ARPANET.

Among the key architects of the ARPANET was Dr. Robert E. Kahn, who joined BBN from MIT around 1968. Among others, Bob prepared the winning proposal to ARPA for development of ARPANET. I was at UCLA at the time studying under Prof. Gerald Estrin but working on the ARPANET project under the direction of Prof. Kleinrock.

ARPANET was the first large-scale packet network. As the project unfolded, I had the responsibility for programming the Network Measurement Center at UCLA where the first ARPANET node was installed in September 1969. My closest high-school friend, Steve Crocker, was also a graduate student at UCLA and wound up leading the effort to develop the procedures for computers to use to communicate with each other over the ARPANET. He led what was called the

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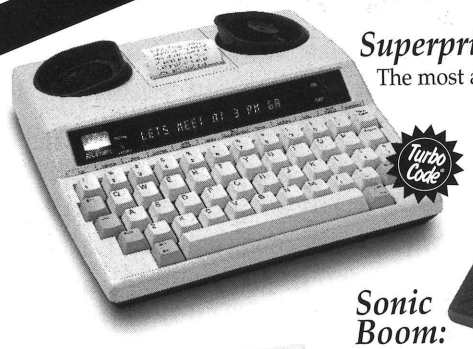

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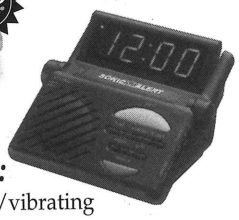

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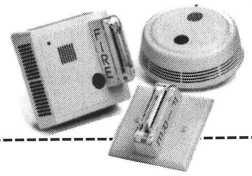

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CONTINUED FROM PAGE 16

Network Working Group on the development of "host protocols." Among others at UCLA, I worked on these protocols as well.

I [first] met Bob Kahn while I was at UCLA and he was serving as the chief designer for the ARPANET at BBN, and he came out to UCLA with another of the key designers, David Walden, to test the small ARPANET (four nodes at the time).

[After I got my Ph.D. in 1972], I joined Stanford University's Computer Science and Electrical Engineering faculty late that year. Bob Kahn had moved to ARPA to run packet-research programs, eventually becoming the Director of IPTO (succeeding Larry Roberts and David Russell in the position). Bob picked up work on packet satellite and packet radio to extend the notion of packet switching from terrestrial lines to radio and satellite. He visited Stanford University in 1973 and described the "internetting" problem he was working on: how to connect different kinds of packet networks so the computers on them could interoperate smoothly. The protocols we had developed for ARPANET were very ARPANET-centric and we needed something more general. We worked out a design for this and I went ahead to lead the effort to develop the Internet and its protocols.

Out of [our] discussions came a proposal which Bob and I presented in a meeting at University of Sussex, England, in September 1973. We published a paper on the subject in May 1974 ["A Protocol for Packet Network Internetworking"] in the **Transactions on Communications of the IEEE**. In that paper [we] specified what became the core Internet protocols; we described the architecture of the system which became the Internet. And then my students and I developed the first detailed specifications in December 1974. I continued to do research on the protocols, implementing and refining the design, leading an effort from the Stanford lab I headed until, in 1976, I joined ARPA to run the Internet, packet-radio, and packet-satellite programs.

I continued to lead the Internet effort until I left ARPA in late 1982 to join MCI the first time (and

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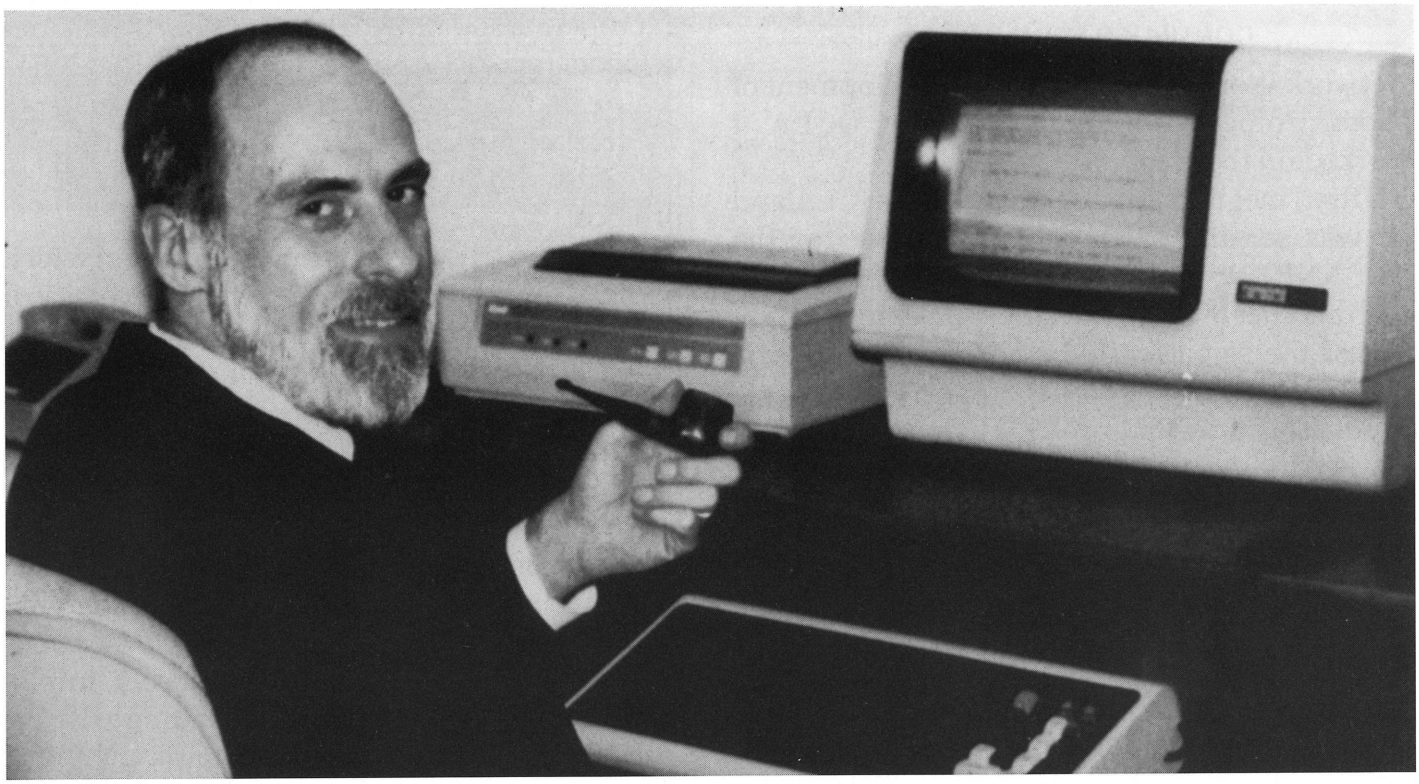


Vint Cerf in front of computer, holding pipe. This photo was taken while Cerf was chief engineer for MCI Mail, circa 1984-85. MCI's office was at 20th and M Streets in Washington, D.C., around the corner from the FCC, next door to CBS, and across the street from NPR.

to develop MCI Mail there). The Internet was rolled out in January 1983 under ARPA's direction.

I was first made a vice president in 1983 at MCI. I left in 1986 to rejoin Bob Kahn at the Corporation for National Research Initiatives as a VP, this time to work on National Information Infrastructure research, but soon got pulled back into the Internet activity after an absence of about 4 years. I got permission to interconnect the Internet with MCI Mail in 1988 as a project at CNRI. I rejoined and eventually headed the Internet Architecture Board (which I had run briefly under a different title when I was at ARPA) until 1991. In 1992, I became the founding president of the Internet Society, which I headed until 1995 when my term expired. Meanwhile, I had returned to MCI in early 1994 (rejoining as a Senior Vice President) to lead MCI's efforts in the development of global Internet services. I enjoy working at executive levels because I have a greater scope of action and I meet so many interesting people!

I feel that I've had a part in the computer and communications revolution that is plainly adding a new communications infrastructure to the familiar telephone, radio, television, newspapers, [and] magazines of today.

What's involved in your current work and everyday life?

● I am a senior vice president for MCI, responsible for the design of our data products, particularly those involving Internet. I have a staff of designers, architects and engineers who design, develop, and deploy these data systems, working together with our marketing departments and our operations departments. My hours are varied and endless. I travel a lot, give many speeches, attend many meetings, answer a lot of E-mail. I may spend a day in meetings designing advanced data services for Internet users, another day traveling to Europe or Asia to speak with customers or with other partners, another day giving speeches at conferences, other days with reporters and photographers answering questions about Internet, a Saturday working with the U.S. Government on security of networks of national importance, a Sunday talking to a supplier about more rapid response to MCI's needs.

Before NetDay ['96], I spent the morning with others at UCLA's Elementary School, speaking to reporters and teachers and kids who were using

the Internet for a educational purposes. Some were using the Net to find information on marine mammals, or heredity; others were using it to interview a poet and getting critiques from her of their work; others talked via the Net in a videoconference with a biologist at USC. I drove to a television studio for a live interview about the business implications of Internet, then I had lunch with my former Ph.D.-thesis advisor, then I flew up to San Francisco for meetings with suppliers of computer and networking equipment. On NetDay, I was back in Virginia, planning efforts to supply networking technology to schools in other states besides California. I didn't get to pull any wires in California schools that day.

● I am 53 now, married to Sigrid Cerf, who is profoundly deaf. I have two kids, David (22) and Bennett (17).

● I'm a classical-music buff. My favorites are Wagner (The *Nibelungen Ring* cycle) and Beethoven (Third, Fifth, and Ninth Symphonies). As for books, I am an avid° science-fiction reader, including Asimov, the earlier works of Robert Heinlein, Hal Clement, Robert Forward, David Brin, Orson Scott Card, and, of course, **The Hobbit** and **The Lord of the Rings** by Tolkien.

Did you really help found the Northern Virginia Resource Center?

▲ I was asked to join the board and served for a time as board chair. Gallaudet was instrumental in setting up this organization and one of my objectives was to help spin it out from its Gally "womb"—it took a couple of years to do it. Many people contributed to that effort, mine was a minor role, really, but an enthusiastic one. The organization is well managed by its incumbent executive director.

I would like to know your feelings about the Internet explosion and its possible influence on the Deaf community.

▲ I am as excited about it as I have been about anything I have ever been involved in. I believe Internet can and will change the landscape of telecommunications in the 21st Century. It has opened the door to merging of many media and to the introduction of intelligent-end devices (not just PCs) that can make use of the unique features of Internet to implement applications unthinkable even 5 years ago.

"I believe that Internet-enabled devices will be far more effective than even a simple PC or laptop and a modem."

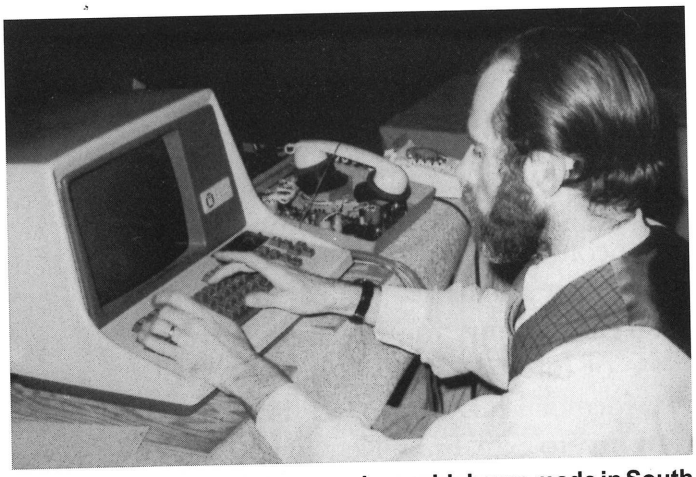
It has taken decades to get the deaf and other TTY users to embrace computer-based communication tools. Most find PCs too expensive or too complex compared to a TTY, but I believe that Internet-enabled devices will be far more effective than even a simple PC or laptop and a modem. If you find any hard statistics on Internet use by deaf community, that would be of supreme interest.

Deaf people have taken to the Internet (E-mail and the Web) with tremendous enthusiasm, since it expands our communication options. How have you benefited from the Internet? And what effect has it had on your life?

● Internet and its predecessor, ARPANET, have been of almost incalculable value thanks to electronic mail—a medium which one can characterize as a "great equalizer." I have made many new friends and renewed many old acquaintances through its increasing accessibility. I rely on the World Wide Web daily to find information of value to me—often better-organized, more up-to-date, and in more useful format than I can find in other media. More generally, with the exception of the time I spent developing MCI Mail, Internet has furnished me with a 25-year career in computer networking.

Sigrid: I'm using the Internet more and more because I prefer the nonobtrusive

Vint Cerf in Johannesburg, South Africa. This machine (modem and terminal) was used in 1974 to demonstrate the ARPANET. This was the first such demonstration of ARPANET in Africa, and it was done in conjunction with a conference sponsored by the International Federation of Information Processing Societies.



A close-up of the prototype modem, which was made in South Africa—it was version #1. The South African Post and Telecommunications Organization had just announced its willingness to liberalize its policies to allow non-PTT modems to be used with the telephone system.

nature of e-mail. I look forward to using it for educational and commercial applications. I can't even imagine how many ways I expect to be using the Internet and the Web in the next decade. But I imagine phone-Internet use will top my list of favorite applications.

What a great age to be alive! The Internet and the cochlear implant have given us unprecedented access to each other and thereby to more rewarding lives.

Do you and Robert Kahn ever feel that you've created a cybernetic "Frankenstein's monster"?

▲ No, I don't think so. We recognize that all technologies have good and not-so-good uses and that we are dealing with a cross-section of the human race at the scale the Internet has achieved. What we hope, I think, is that the Internet will be used more for constructive purposes than otherwise. Anecdotal evidence suggests this is the case.

What's your philosophy?

▲ I am optimistic by nature; trust people until proven wrong in that trust; believe technology's good side will usually outweigh its bad sides. I believe that openness, honesty, and frank discussion are healthy and desirable. I still believe in a kind of chivalrous view of women—a hopeless romantic. And I believe in the future—that all things are possible.

● [Some things I've learned:] Perhaps the greatest lesson is "persistence." Success often comes, not with a lightning stroke of vision and energy, but with the persistent application of effort, sometimes over years and decades. Edison spoke of "1 percent inspiration and 99 percent perspiration" in what I have always taken as a confirmation of the value of persistence. A second lesson is "honesty" in assessing the results of one's work. Progress is not made by hiding flaws or ignoring them. Sometimes problems must be put aside to work on others, but pretending they don't exist is silly. Finally, Nobel Prize-winner, Joshua Lederberg, taught me the best lesson of all: "Do Something!"

Two favorite stories

(1) **The Bread Truck Caper & other adventures**

◆ If we go back into history, you'll discover an organization of the Defense Department called the Advanced Research Projects Agency that was created in the Eisenhower Administration when the Russians launched the first Sputnik. The job was to keep the United States from being technically surprised again. One of the tasks to pursue was to figure out how computers could be used in military command and control. But they cast that problem in an academic setting: how could we allow different computer-science-research departments in different parts of the country to collaborate with each other, to share computing resources together in order to carry out a research program? And that exploration led to the first use of a

technology called packet switching in the ARPANET that was built in 1969 by a company called Bolt Beranek and Newman.

At the same time, there were researchers in Honolulu who were experimenting with radio communication to computers because in the Islands, the telephone circuits were not very good, especially between the Islands, so radio turned out to be a better way of communicating from the Islands off to the University of Hawaii.

So they got some old taxi radios, and they outfitted them with some digital circuits and allowed these terminals to communicate by radio to a central processor in Honolulu. The interesting thing about that technology is that the terminals were allowed to transmit whenever they felt like it. There wasn't any timing or control. If you had something to say, you just said it. That's why they called it "Aloha," you know . . . nobody cared. So you would transmit and then you would listen to see whether the computer in the middle, the big mainframe, had heard it, by sending an acknowledgement back. If you didn't hear an acknowledgement, you knew something had gone wrong, you must have collided with somebody. You would then select a random time and do it again, hoping to avoid a collision.

This "Aloha" method actually worked, and it was connected to satellite communication, with many ground stations sharing common satellites, and it got applied in a different way to mobile packet radio.

This packet-radio system was integrated in the San Francisco Bay area by a company called SGI International. They got a big, nondescript° bread truck, just a big metal truck. It didn't have any kind of windows, just a cylindrical antenna on the top, but no identifying marks. They would drive up and down the San Francisco Bay shore, measuring the radio signals and errors and other things from the data transmissions going to and from the truck. Sometimes they would pull off to the side of the road in order to make measurements. One day, they were off to the side and the scientist was in the back with everyone else. So a [passing] policeman saw this—what looked like an unoccupied truck on the side of the road. He pulled over and didn't see anyone in the driver's seat, so he knocked on the back door. Well, they opened up the door, and you can imagine what's inside: computers, radios, all these nerdy-looking guys. He looked in there, and his eyes got really big, and he said, "Who are you?"

"Oh, we work for the government."

"*Which* government?" [*Laughter from the audience*]

Well, this set of networks, the packet-satellite-net, the radio packet-net, and the ARPANET, represented the three basic networks we had to interconnect with each other, and they were all very different.

About the same time, my colleague, Bob Metcalfe, had gone off and seen the ALOHANET and developed the Ethernet. So we had *four* that had to be connected. My friend Bob Kahn came to visit me at Stanford and described the different kind of packet-nets that ARPA was building, and explained that he had a problem . . . how could he hook these networks together without the computers at the outside knowing what was going on inside? That was the basic internet problem. So we started this research program in 1973 at Stanford. We added researchers in University College in London, and Bolt Beranek and Newman a couple of years later, and Bob and I wrote the first paper describing how one could actually build an *internet*, what kind of communication protocols would be needed, way back in 1974. We didn't actually get to demonstrate a 3-network system until 1977.

We then spent 6 years to build the protocols into about 35 different operating systems on different machines scattered around the ARPANET. We required everyone on the ARPANET to use the new TCP/IP protocols. We didn't see any commercial use of this or commercial value until 1983, when companies found they could sell routers to people who needed to use different pieces of Internet. It was only in 1989 that the government allowed anyone to use the network for a commercial purpose. In fact, I went to the government in 1988, when I was with the Corporation for National Research Initiatives, and asked them for permission to connect MCI Mail, which I had built earlier, a commercial E-mail system, to the Internet. That was the first time that the government allowed a commercial interconnect with the system. Of course, we did this on purpose to try to

break through a similar tough policy barrier. It wasn't until 1989 or 1990 that anyone made commercial services out of the Internet, and two companies—Union and PSI—were the first.

So it was only a few years ago, that the network had even begun to be accessible to the broader range of community than the researchers who built it in the first place. Of course, the last 4 years have been a little crazy, ranging all the way from the explosion of the World Wide Web interest up to and now [including] the use of the Internet for internet telephony.

You have to learn to be humble in this business, and when I was in Cary, North Carolina, where [MCI's] Network Operations Center was located, I saw this sign on the side of a cubicle: "Vint Cerf is the father of the Internet, but we're the mothers who have to make it work!" They are right. It takes many, many hands to get this system to run. So I never want to take very much credit for this business because there's an awful lot that has to happen that other people do.

(2) The Spratley Islands/Slovenia Domain Name Dispute

◆ [*Showing a bar chart comparing growth of Gopher to WWW*] Gopher was a text-based distributed menu system that was brought onto the Net in the early 1990s. We started measuring how much of the NSFnet backbone was being used by Gopher, and it leveled out at about 4% of the backbone. Traffic was growing at 100% per year, so the level percentage still represents exponential growth in absolute traffic rate, but along came the World Wide Web, doubling exponentially and now occupying 50% of the network.

But hiding in this rather dry statistical chart is a very funny story that I'm going to take time to tell you. My introduction to Gopher came when I was president of the Internet Society. I got an E-mail message from a very angry guy in Slovenia, who said, "Dear Mr. President, you jerk! The Slovenians would like *.si* as their domain name, and the Americans have reserved that for the Spratley Islands. Do something about it!"

I didn't know what the Spratley Islands were, and set that message aside. The next message waiting was from the guys in Minnesota. They said, "Dear Vint, try out Gopher."

So I logged into the Gopher server, and a menu came up, and one of the menu items said "Electronic Books." I thought that was interesting, and I clicked on that. Another list came up, and another electronic book was the *C.I.A. World Fact Book*. I remember thinking, "Oh, my God, we're all going to go to jail! What is this classified document doing on the Internet?" Later it turned out it was an unclassified document, and I remember thinking, "Well, if anybody knows what the Spratley Islands are, the CIA ought to know." So I typed it in and I got back three paragraphs of information. They are islands in the South Pacific and a lot of countries dispute who owns them. They have population zero, three air bases, four military fortresses, and they have land use 0% urban, 0% suburban, 0% agricultural, 100% other. And large quantities of bat guano. That must be why we're interested in them.

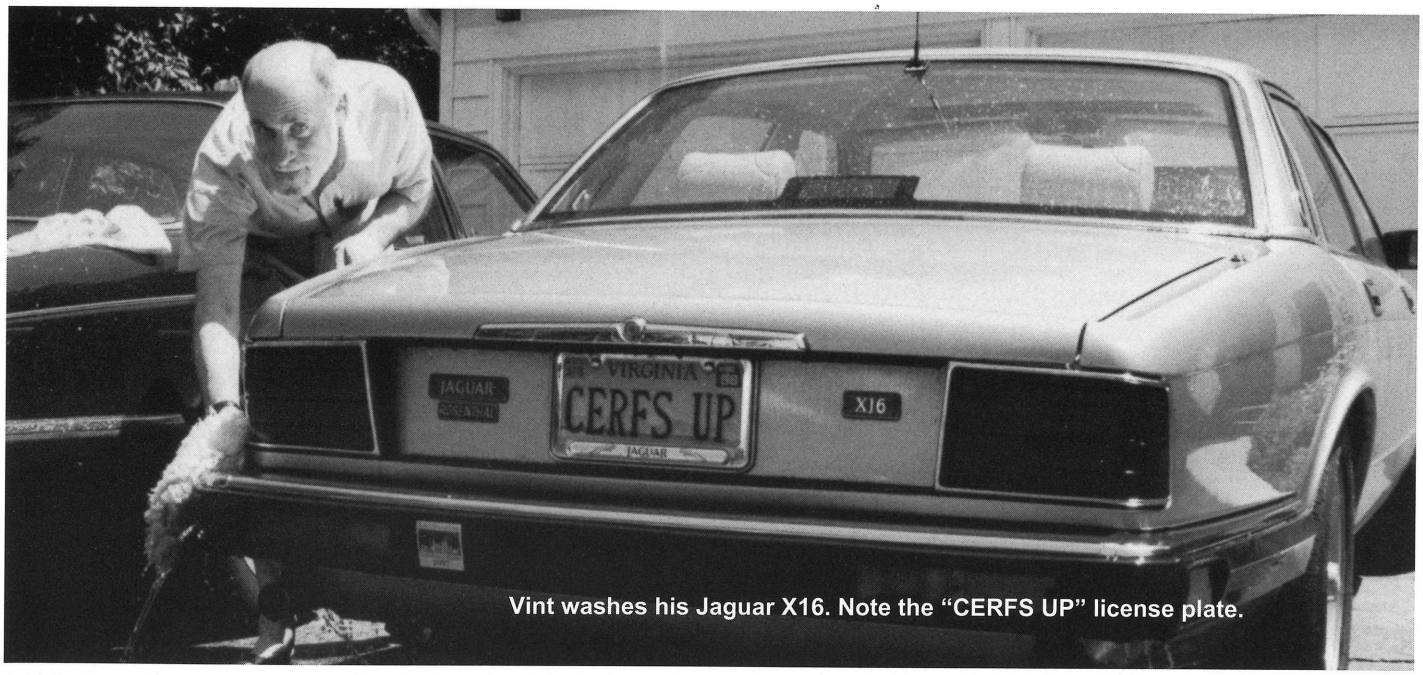
But the problem was then simple: I just had to find the Spratley Islands' desk at the State Department. Two weeks go by, and I don't discover it at the State Department, but I get an E-mail from my friend in Slovenia saying, "Dear Dr. Cerf, the Americans have released the restriction on *.si*. Thank you for your help."

I used to get blamed for a lot of stuff on the Net, [so] I sent a note back saying, "I'm very pleased to have been of help to you. Sincerely yours . . ." I still don't know what happened. But that's the story that was hiding in that dry little chart.

A few more comments

Expanding deaf access on the Internet

◆ The biggest problem right now for deaf people using the Net is the use of sound in the Network environment. Unless we couple that with natural use of captioning or text alternatives, then sound presentations are going to be a problem, just as they were with television until we got closed-captioning. So I have been encouraging companies that make software for the Net, like Microsoft and Netscape, to think always about the community that needs alternative ways of getting auditory information. Apart from that, I actually think that the Internet is going to be a tremendous help to the deaf and hard-of-hearing community, because it's an alternative to telephonic communication, one that the hearing world has discovered



Vint washes his Jaguar X16. Note the "CERFS UP" license plate.

often works better than the telephone for certain applications.

● I would like to see computers used more regularly to assist in deaf communication. TDDs are too slow. I've tried a number of ways to use relay services, computers and multiple telephone lines to work more natural ways for more rapid deaf/hearing interaction than the classical deaf relay service. My wife and I tested and she used successfully a three-way VCO in which she placed calls to hearing persons and to the relay service via her computer and could speak and see text at the same time. Until she had her cochlear implant, this was an important communication method for her.

What happening now . . . and what can happen

● Internet, as an infrastructure, is still in a rapid state of evolution. New applications seems to emerge daily. The ability of virtually any communication medium to transport its basic Internet Protocol (IP) contributes to Internet's rapid expansion and to the seemingly endless entrepreneurial opportunities it creates. The relative simplicity of IP permits it to be installed in virtually any appliance housing a modicum of computing power.

■

"There are many myths about the Internet, but the one I'm usually asked is 'Who pays for this?'"

■

Such thinking quickly leads to ideas for Internet-enabled appliances ranging from television set-top boxes to refrigerators, toasters, hot water heaters and even light bulbs! (...)

In the developing countries, Internet has the potential to unlock economic opportunity in ways no other telecommunications infrastructure has ever done. Readers interested in this aspect of the Internet might turn to the Internet Society which, among its other goals, is committed to facilitating this revolution in the developing world. To paraphrase, its mission is "To take the Internet where no network has gone before. (...)

As a trustee and former president of the Internet Society, I'm working toward widespread access to Internet around the world. I especially enjoy the contacts I've made with hundreds of schoolchildren everywhere who are just beginning to learn how to use the Internet. On balance, I think the Internet can be a powerful resource for accomplishing much good in the world.—from the "Cerf Report"

Connecting the future

◆ There are many myths about the Internet, but the one I'm usually asked is

"Who pays for this?" People can't believe they can sit down, pay $20 a month, and send messages all over the world. Some think it must be the government pays for it. It used to be true 20 years ago, but it's not true anymore. The government pays for its share because it uses the Internet, but it doesn't pay for your use and my use. So people think the Internet Society runs it, and it has an important role, but it does not actually run any part of the Internet. Some people think I run it. No, that's not true, either. I have responsibility for a piece of it. Some people think we're running out of addresses on the Internet, and that's actually true. Eventually we are going to run out, so we have some solutions to that. Some people think you can't make any money at it. I'm here to tell you that isn't true; there are many, many ways of creating businesses on top of the Internet, ranging from selling equipment, software, telecommunication circuits, access to Internet, software services, space on Web servers. Of course, you can use your imagination. In fact, I'm sure your imagination will be better than mine about new things that you could do on the Net.

◆ We in the telecommunications business are driven not by our ideas but by other people who do things on the Net and then force us to find ways to support it. Internet telephony, Internet videocommunications are examples of things that the Net was not designed to do but it's being forced to because people, like at Cornell, have come up with applications, and they sit on top of the Net and make it, force it to, support. So this is driving a great deal of the evolution of the Internet today.

◆ I live [near] Washington. I have been there for 20 years, and the definition of "leadership" in Washington is finding out where everybody is going and then running like hell to get out in front. This is the way you do business on the Internet, too. You watch to see what people are doing, and whatever it is that looks like it works, you run like hell to get out in front.

◆ Enormous amounts of information have poured into the Net, everybody wanting to put things on their Web page, and the problem was you couldn't find things. So this turned into businesses like Yahoo or Alta Vista, and there are several others as well. People have turned these problems into business opportunities. That's an important message for you. If you encounter a problem in the use of the network, it could be there's a business waiting there for you to discover.

◆ If you're like me, you use [it] more than the [recorded] average of 6.6 hours a week, but it's interesting that that is also the same number of hours that the Nielsen rating system says people are watching prerecorded videocassettes from the video-rental stores. So people are, at least on the average, spending as much time on the Internet as they are looking at video rentals.

◆ We are clearly on the edge of the 21st Century, where technology can do things that we would have thought science fiction even 10 years ago.

◆ I hope that I can ignore the existence of operating systems entirely. They are only there to get in the way of using your computer. I'm a real Macintosh freak. I have eight Macs around the house. [*Applause from audience*] On the other hand, you'll notice that I'm carrying an IBM Thinkpad, and the reason is I have to be compatible with the rest of my company. I'm an egalitarian.° I will use Unix, Mac, various flavors of Windows. I don't care as long as I have access to the Internet!■

For further reading:

Matthew Lyon and Katie Hafner, **Where Wizards Stay Up Late**

Peter Salus, **Casting the Net**

John Adam, "Geek Gods: how cybergeniuses Bob Kahn and Vint Cerf turned a Pentagon project into the Internet and connected the world," **Washingtonian**, November 1996

Nick Wingfield, "Still Netting after all these years," "Newsmakers," **CNET News.com**, ca. Spring 1997

Check the World Wide Web at ✷http://www.mci.com/aboutmci/cerf/

ambient: surrounding.

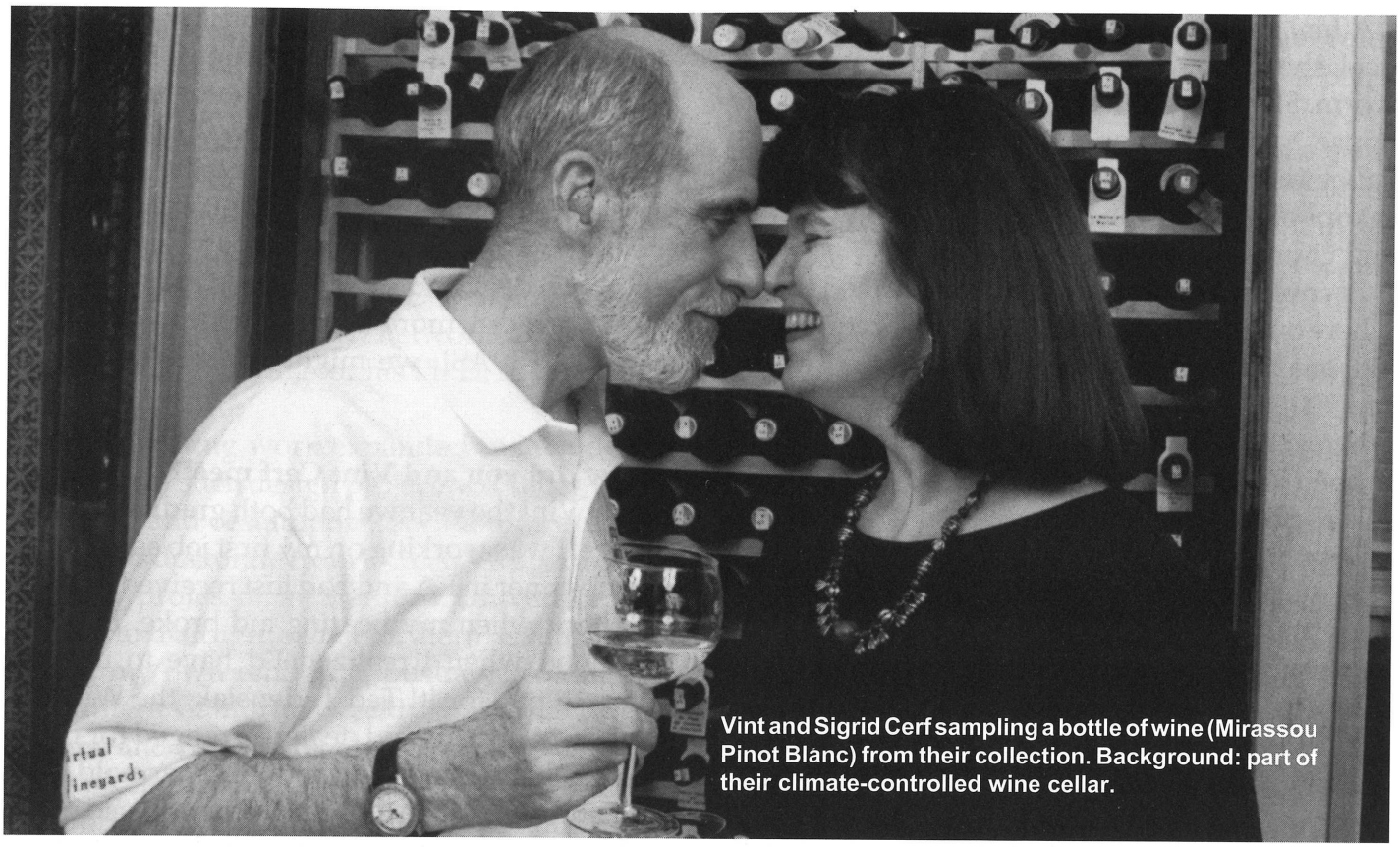
acuity: sharpness (e.g., of one's hearing).

avid: eager; enthusiastic.

nondescript: having no distinctive features.

egalitarian: someone who advocates equality and equal rights for all.

Deaf Life Thanks to Sigrid and Vint Cerf, the indispensable Caroline Rice, Public Relations Specialist, Corporate Communications at MCI, and the staff of the Staff Resource Center at NTID.



Vint and Sigrid Cerf sampling a bottle of wine (Mirassou Pinot Blanc) from their collection. Background: part of their climate-controlled wine cellar.

Sigrid Cerf: Every day an adventure

Sigrid Cerf was a bit easier to "pin down" than her globe-trotting husband. We E-mailed her some questions, and received detailed, warm, and high-spirited replies.

I would like to know more about you as a person, your experience as a profoundly deaf person. What was your experience like?

I grew up in Wichita, Kansas, where my father was a life-insurance salesman. My parents were middle-aged when I was born; I had one sibling—an older brother. My mother was a retired teacher and full-time homemaker.

I was not born deaf. I was deafened (90 dB loss) at three from spinal meningitis. My oral training came solely from a 6-week summer course at the John Tracy Clinic in LA. The Tracy experience involved specially trained teachers working with my mother and me. I had no other special attention from other professionals . . . no formal speech therapy or any attention drawn to my disability other than their placing me at the front of the classroom and pairing me with a good student for homework information and finding pages in a book, etc. This was a mainstreamed education in the extreme. My mother insisted that I not be singled out, fearing that I might pay less attention if I was "coddled." Of course, in those early years, I often "pretended" to hear. And of course the strategy backfired and I was in a supreme state of denial and refused to ever discuss my hearing loss with anyone.

I remember how my love for reading evolved from my mother's close work with me. She had me reading out loud to *her* . . . all day long. One could not have asked for a better listener: "Oh, that was nice, honey. May I hear that story again? I love how you said 'exquisite.' Do you suppose Cinderella really looked exquisite in that ball dress, or did she just *feel* exquisite because she usually wore rags?" The next time I read "Cinderella," she'd ask more questions, and I'd have integrated more "exquisite" words into my vocabulary.

After I grew older and was reading alone a great deal, she noticed that I'd turned into a real bookworm. She then focused on getting me out of the house to socialize as much as possible. I took ballet lessons, art lessons, piano, clarinet, and saxophone lessons, and enjoyed Scouts and school and church friends.

Of course this was the old mainstreamed school where one either swam or sank. My large hearing aid enabled me to hear some vowels and by speechreading I would string together words in whatever way I could. I enjoyed close friends who rapped with me one-on-one, but I tended to avoid socializing in groups of more than two or three.

Perhaps I became very visual as a result of being acutely bored with grownups' conversation (perhaps that happens to some kids with normal hearing, too). I would find myself studying someone's living room, for example, and in my mind's eye, I became an artist, removing walls or creating them. I'd rearrange the furniture, dramatically changing colors and textures, and adding accessories. My favorite hobby became sketching and painting architecture and interiors.

I studied liberal arts for two years at Agnes Scott College (Decatur, Georgia). Then I decided to go into the field of architectural and interior rendering. I graduated with a B.A. degree in Art from Kansas State University in Manhattan, Kansas.

At Agnes Scott it was the first time I'd ever been given special attention from the administration and faculty. My psychology professor asked my teachers to allocate the job of notetaking to their two best students in my classes. At the end of the class I was given two sets of carbon-copied notes. I wished I'd had this special treatment when I was at K-State, but at the larger institution, I self-consciously kept my disability private and never discussed my hearing loss.

Do you have any experience in sign language? Have you ever become friendly with ASL-Deaf people?

Years ago I took a basic course in sign language (SEE) from a Gallaudet sign-language professor, Brenda Mitchener. Brenda is patience personified, but I think she and I agreed in spite of my being the only deaf person in her class, I was the worst student she'd ever had!

Vint and I treasure our friendships with the Northern Virginia Resource Center for Deaf and Hard of Hearing Persons, especially with its dynamic director, Cheryl Heppner. She seems to know *every*one. She was one of the first deaf people who understood the value of the Internet and she set up e-mail sources for all of us. Now that more deaf and HOH people are accessible online, we can more easily communicate with some whose ASL we might not readily understand.

How did you and Vint Cerf meet?

I met Vint the year we had both graduated from college. I was working on my first job as a restaurant designer in LA and had just received my first paycheck when my hearing aid broke. Imagine my mood when I realized I'd have to use my salary to pay for it! Ted Tadeusiak, the Wilshire Boulevard hearing-aid dealer, arranged for me to come to his office for a follow-up earmold visit one Saturday. When he finished, he advised me to stick around. There was someone he wanted me to meet.

Time went by (almost a half-hour), and I noticed Ted's business colleague walking outside his office. I rose to introduce myself and then proceeded to walk out the door. Ted caught me before I disappeared and pulled me back into the store. I soon found myself meeting another man, Vint Cerf. The store closed at noon, and we found ourselves outside on the sidewalk, wondering what to do next.

We walked down the street to have lunch. I was intrigued by Vint's enthusiasm . . . for his new programming job at IBM, his Stanford days, and his friendly questions about me. I then suggested a visit to the nearby art museum where I showed him my favorite painting. His reaction to the Kandinsky-esque work: "Doesn't that thing looks like a green hamburger?" He now admits a certain philistinism in his attitude to art, but I was hooked. Anyone who had this kind of inquiring mind definitely showed hope!

As the afternoon drew on, I suddenly realized I'd completely forgotten to take my mother to the airport! She'd missed her plane and wondered, who was this guy who wore a hearing aid, anyway? In a couple of months, we were engaged

and . . . I hope . . . forgiven.

It wasn't until this time when I met Vint that I felt I could confront my hearing loss head-on. I gradually learned to let people know what it was they could do to help me hear them.

We were married nine months later and continued to work in LA for six years. Vint worked on the ARPA (Department of Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency) networking project at UCLA while studying for his Ph.D. in Computer Science.

My illustrating work expanded to include the rendering of such design projects as offices, country clubs, and restaurants. Six months after receiving his doctorate from UCLA, Vint became an assistant professor at Stanford University. We moved to Palo Alto in Northern California. I started my own rendering business, commuted to Southern California weekly to work with designers, and hired someone to help me with my art work and phone calls. Our first son, David, was born in Palo Alto. We rigged the house with doorbell and baby alarms. While at Stanford Vint started what was to become globetrotting networking research with others on the ARPA project.

In '75, I had an ear infection that was to have a devastating effect on my ability to function as an oral-deaf person. In one evening my hearing loss went from a 90 dB loss to zilch. Or I should say, I heard one thing only . . . *everything* sounded like a spoon tinkling against a drinking glass.

After six weeks, the hearing loss had stabilized to about 100 dB, and after being fitted with a more powerful hearing aid, I realized I would no longer be able to understand even such simple words as "yes" and "no" on the phone. I don't know which of us was more stunned. For a while, I didn't want to see anyone, and Vint realized that even if we sharply limited our social lives, our choice of friends would depend on whom I could lipread and whom I couldn't. And what could you do when I could understand the husband and not his wife?

As Vint and I explored my limited options for phone communication, we met with Andrew Saks, who was working with Jim Marsters and Robert Weitbrecht to market Weitbrecht's early modems for Teletypes. Vint asked them why they didn't consider the computer as an effective way for the deaf to communicate. "Too expensive," they said. "Many deaf people could never afford a computer terminal."

In '75 Vint went to London, leaving me with instructions on how I could use his home-computer terminal to leave a message for him. A neighbor helped me decipher the directions, and we made contact with Vint. My first e-mail message!

We soon moved to Northern Virginia where Vint worked as ARPA's networking projects director. Alone at home, I struggled with one of those used Model 28 Teletypes (TTYs) that had been retired from industry. The monstrous thing malfunctioned abysmally. Even when it worked, there were few people I could call. There was only one volunteer in our area who was available to relay messages, and of course she didn't have time to answer her phone more than a few hours a week.

When Vint presented his lecture at NTID, he spoke warmly about you, and described how happy you were with the Clarion implant, and how excited you were to explore the world of sound . . . using voice telephones, listening to music, etc.

"Happy" doesn't sufficiently describe my experience with the implant. Perhaps "stunned by its success and ease of use" comes close. The day my speech processor was activated at Johns Hopkins, I called Vint. He was about to leave for a meeting in Budapest and I hurried to say goodbye. We estimated my hearing acuity in that conversation was about 40%. Before leaving the airport, he broadcast the good news over the Internet to friends far and wide: "Sigrid's implant is a success. We've just had our first intelligent phone conversation in thirty-one years!" Within a few weeks, my ability to hear on the phone improved, and I couldn't wait for the phone to ring. I even enjoyed telemarketing calls and ended up asking lengthy questions of the callers.

Vint says, "What a transformation. She now functions more or less the way I do with my hearing aids. I have a 54-year old teenager who is always on the phone . . . and it's wonderful. :-) It's a blooming miracle! I continue to be astonished at the efficacy of Sigrid's implant. Even though I

appreciate the theory, it is still hard to believe it works this well. I was convinced that we'd skipped from 1996 to 2300 and that Jean-Luc Picard would step into the room at any moment. We really are in the midst of a revolution and it is far from over!"

I called the neighbors. We planned a celebration. Other assistive-listening systems came into play. I learned how to use an infrared receiver with my speech processor to hear the TV. I would turn off the captions (much to Vint's annoyance), and found that if I concentrated carefully, I could follow almost all of the dialogue without speechreading. I discovered the same IR receiver worked well in the theater and movie houses. Our first real movie date was ***Independence Day*** (apt words), which I watched with my jaw hanging open in astonishment. Our first theater experience was OK, although we picked the most challenging kind, a musical. I heard the straight dialogue pretty well, and did well enough when someone sang accompanied by a couple of instruments. I was lost when the entire orchestra played. But I wasn't complaining. The music sounded divine.

I assume that getting an implant is no picnic. What has your experience been?

My implant team at Johns Hopkins seemed surprised when I reported what a party the surgery had been. I explained, "hadn't I, after all, waited for this long enough?" Besides, my online CI-friends had advised me not to expect any major complications.

Of course, Vint wanted to accompany me to the 3-hour outpatient surgery. But, fearing that I might feed on his nervousness (he faints at the first sight of blood), I asked my neighbors to bring me to the clinic. These neighbors, avid members of an ice-cream club, casually chatted about their group's crazy new ice-cream flavors and distracted me with tales of their trip to Europe. I don't remember feeling pain or fear . . . before the surgery or after it. And there was no residual pain during the healing stages. Not even the mild pain that one gets after having a tooth filled after the anesthesia wears off. We still laugh about my "high" that resulted from the general anesthetic. I couldn't stop talking for hours. ("She came home jabbering like a magpie," says Vint.)

What's your everyday life like?

A typical day, if there's such a thing, can run like this: Vint gets ready to leave for work. I turn on my speech processor to have an intelligible conversation with him. I'm a full-time homemaker, and I plan the day's errands. I walk the dog. Wearing a fanny pack with my speech processor "patched" into my Walkman, I listen to Tolstoy's **Anna Karenina**, a novel on cassette. On our return, I keep the story running while I breeze through routines like laundry, the dishes, and gardening, remaining in full view of the doorbell and phone signalers. Although I can ordinarily hear the doorbell or phone ringing, when I'm plugged into this cassette player, I hear only that sound which comes through it.

I make phone calls and return voice-mail messages. A friend calls to invite me to a movie. Vint's secretary calls to coordinate my schedule with Vint's. We are to have some trips together, including visits to Sydney, Rome, Prague, the French Alps, Spain, and Mallorca. We plan a date in New York where Vint and Jack Valenti will be featured in a Broadway one-nighter called ***An Evening with Vint Cerf***. A friend calls to discuss her and my bus tour to Turkey, and I'm excited about being able to hear a tour guide for the first time. I relate to her how, with both sons grown, the "empty nest" syndrome has hit me in a most pleasant way . . . now I have the self-confidence and freedom to enjoy a new stage of life.

I call sons David and Bennett. Even though they tend to stay in close touch by e-mail, they relate more good news of their lives on the West coast . . . at a steady clip they chat about film classes and the video-editing business, and I suspect they've almost forgotten that I'm new at this phone game. I settle down to e-mail, accompanied by Beethoven's Third Symphony. I correspond with a newly-implanted friend. I address questions from deaf Malaysians who've caught my cochlear-implant interviews in Kuala Lumpur. I listen to one of Vint's CD-ROMs, using a patch cable that he's installed into the back of my Macintosh.

Back home, I phone-order an audiocassette lecture series on contemporary American literature. I debate how many cassettes to bring on next

Sigrid Cerf speaks with some family friends about the advantages of the cochlear implant. The family friend, also partially deaf, has a deaf friend who's a candidate for the cochlear implant. The friend is setting up a time when Sigrid can join them for lunch to talk about her experience with the implant.

week's plane trip. If the movie on the plane is worth watching, I'll use my patch cord instead of the cabin earphones and listen to the movie, blissfully unaware of any other noise on the plane. Not even squealing babies.

Driving off on errands, I listen to a radio talk show in the car. Then I switch back to the Walkman. Eighteen months post-implant, this cassette is the 130th book-on-tape I've enjoyed. Through these tapes I've received valuable input. This "listening therapy" has helped me to distinguish emotions in people's speech and to identify different accents. But beyond being sucked into great stories, the big payoff is learning to properly pronounce hundreds of new words.

Am I obsessed with listening to books on tape? Am I am becoming a *tapeworm*? I *must* stop at the library and check out the new tapes. At the bookstore I buy some Italian-language tapes, **The English Patient**, and **A Passage to India**. The people in the bookstore have no idea I'm tuned out and tuned on. They see neither my cochlear-implant equipment nor the Walkman under my clothes, and of course there's no telltale evidence of earphones. Will I someday access Vint via an Internet-connected speech processor? When, in the middle of a store, I surreptitiously send him a voice-activated Net message through the auxiliary mic hidden in my bra, and they suspect I'm talking to myself, will they show me the door?

I pick up Vint at the airport, and we are to join a business colleague for dinner. Inside our dark car I attach a mic to Vint's lapel and listen to the news of his day with my eyes closed and head relaxed. He notes what a bizarre feeling it is that I no longer focus on his face and suggests that, as much as he appreciates my efforts to become more sound-oriented by curtailing the lipreading, perhaps not looking at others' faces is an indication of disinterest. I agree. In becoming a good listener, what could be more important than focusing on someone's face? At dinner, the restaurant becomes progressively noisier, and using the mic again, our friend is relatively easy to hear and I politely look at him as he talks.

Driving home, we call Vint's mother on the voice-activated car phone. Back home, I give the dog her evening walk. I am accompanied by the eloquent words of the tape, **Simple Abundance**. I arrive home, feeling content. Life in our home never felt more abundant . . . or this simple.■

Deaf Life Photos by Mark J. Harding; historical photos courtesy of MCI.

DeafLife

READERS' RESPONSES

Are hard-of-hearing people a part of the Deaf community?

80% Yes 5% No 15% Not sure

YES—Yes, if they know ASL and are active in the Deaf community's activities or perhaps a member of a Deaf family.

NOT SURE—I believe they are part of the Deaf community depending on how you define hard-of-hearing as if they lost hearing at later age or born hard-of-hearing like half-deaf, half-hear ... otherwise, if they do understand the deaf culture or deafness then they are part of deaf community and if they don't, then they should be classified as hearing.

NOT SURE—Actually, the answer is "yes" and "no," depending on their attitude and outlook towards the Deaf community. I have some hard-of-hearing friends who are very much part of the Deaf community because they functioned like "Deaf" people. But then again, I also know some hard-of-hearing people who can't seem to get accepted by the Deaf community and I think it has a lot to do with their (the hard-of-hearing people) difficulty in accepting the "Deaf" part of themselves. I have a hard-of-hearing friend who keeps saying he's on the "fence" and I keep telling him to just get off the damn fence. I tell him his life will easier that way, and he will get accepted by the Deaf community more that way.

YES—I believe they are, if they are willing to support the ideals of the Deaf community. In fact, I am hard-of-hearing myself. I am part of the Deaf community. So it is possible. But I believe the question remains, do the hard-of-hearing people see themselves as part of the Deaf community? That is *my* question!

YES—I would have to agree to a certain point. Whether *hard-of-hearing* or *hearing-impaired*, they both mean two entirely different things, but in our society today it means the same. People are people no matter what the handicap is. The point of the matter that there should be more things that [pertain] to the Deaf (hard-of-hearing or hearing-impaired) society. Although the hard-of-hearing population may have attended hearing schools and activities, they still had that window of loss of being wholly involved in the hearing population. There are things that are left out and things that are left unsaid, there is a saying "Things are better left unsaid;" this is true but only when it pertains to hurting people. When it pertains to the lives of others, there has to be a better way. There has to be a way to help the Deaf improve their involvement in today's world.

NO—Hard-of-Hearing will never be a part of the Deaf community. Look at their (Deaf) infighting over some stupid issues and not being able to get along. I am HOH who is rejected by Deaf community. Most Deaf people I have met are very, very rude. I don't like their community at all.

Readers have asked us how many "Deafview" responses we get every month.

This month's total: 812

Deaf Life

READERS' VIEWPOINT

DEAFVIEW

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Are you a frequent user of the Internet (WWW and E-mail)? How important is it in your life?

❑ Very ❑ Somewhat ❑ Not very

Comments: _____

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Deadline: November 20,1997

Visit us at: **http://www.deafview.com**

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Please respond promptly so that we can publish the results in the December issue.

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What's behind the things you really look forward to reading.

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NOVEMBER 1997

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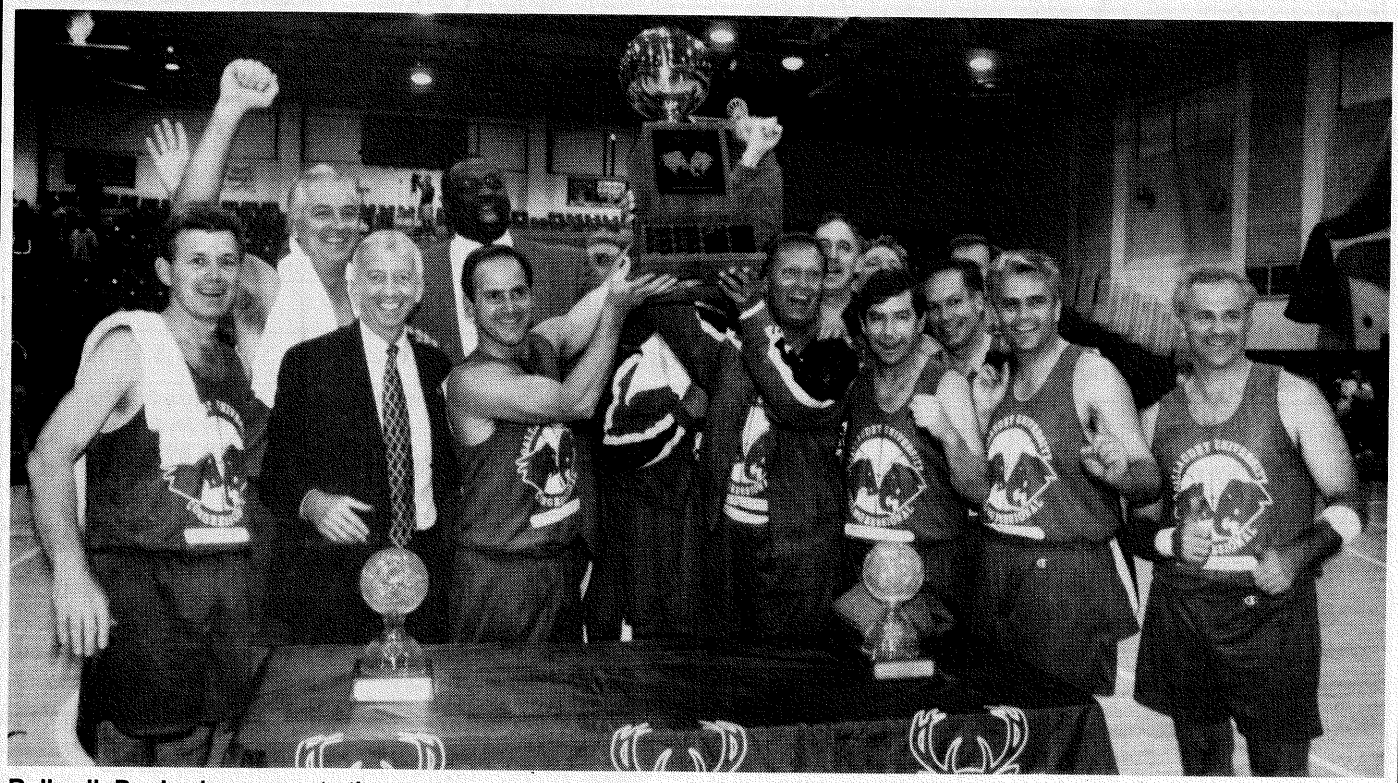
REPUBLICANS WHIP DEMOCRATS! (at Gally, that is)



Roll call: Dr. Jordan presents the trophy to the Fighting Elephants, who defeated the Dunkin' Donkeys, 68-44. Coach Bob Lanier stands behind Dr. Jordan.

The Eighth Gallaudet University Congressional Basketball Classic was held on Wednesday, October 8, in the Field House. In front of a crowd estimated at 1,600, Congressional Republicans roundly° defeated the Democrats 68 to 44. The series is now tied at 4 wins each. The Classic was sponsored by the National Basketball Association, Washington Wizards, COMSAT Corporation, and, for the first time, the Milwaukee Bucks.

This year's Classic had a very good turnout from Gallaudet students, Congressional aides, corporate and foundation

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When we need it:

Please send material by the first of the month for publication the following month, with a 10-day grace period. (Items for November 1992 publication, for example, must be sent before October 10.) The earlier, the better. We will not accept any story more than 1 month old.

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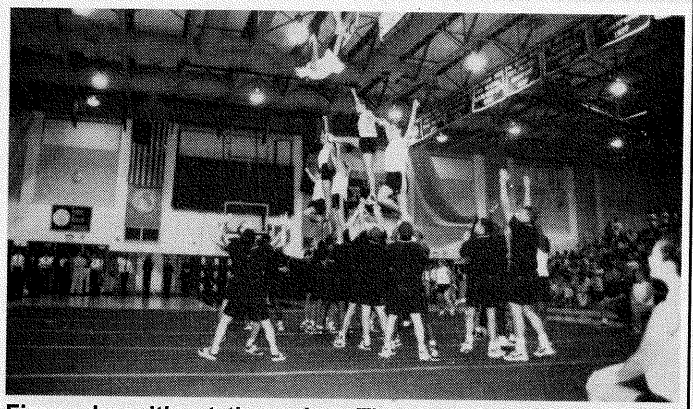
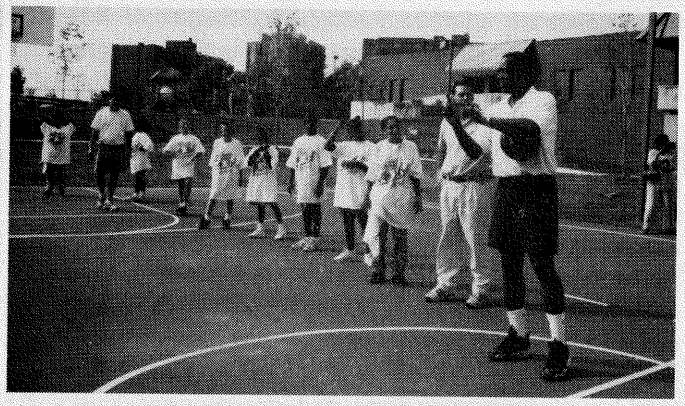
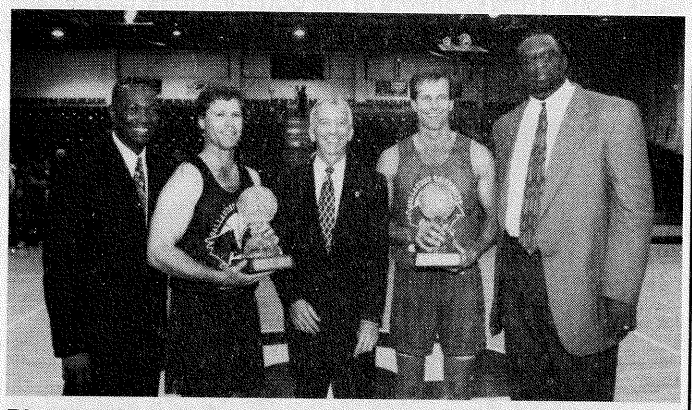
Total access: Mike Glenn conducted a basketball clinic at KDES during the afternoon. The kids were delighted about being able to communicate directly with him.



Fireworks without the noise: The Acro-Airs of Columbia Union College (Takoma Park, Maryland) performed at half-time.





Bipartisan sportsmanship: Dr. Jordan (center) poses with the MVPs—Ron Kind of the Dunkin' Donkeys, second from left, and John Thune of the Fighting Elephants, second from right—and their celebrity coaches, Mike Glenn (left) and Bob Lanier (right).

leaders, honored guests, and friends of the University, including Senator **Herbert Kohl** (D-WI), owner of the Milwaukee Bucks. The Classic's first media sponsor, **The Hill**, was represented by another first-time visitor, **Martin Tolchin**, publisher and editor-in-chief.

The Republicans' celebrity coach was **Bob Lanier**, an 8-time NBA All-Star and member of the Basketball Hall of Fame. He got the Fighting Elephants, who are noted for being conservative in the House, to play aggressively on the court. Team captain **Mike Oxley** (OH) was pleased with the way his men played and with Lanier's coaching.

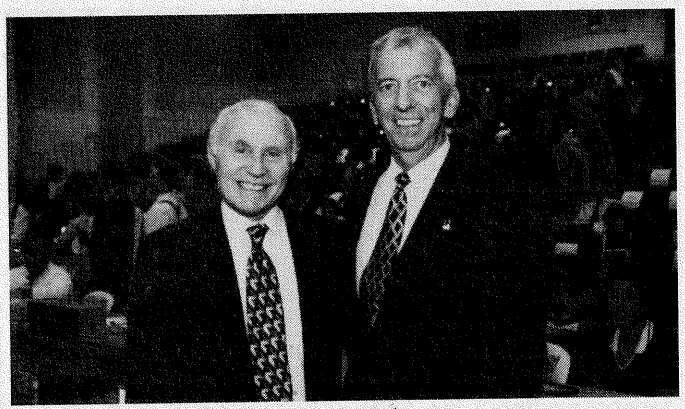
Lanier serves as the spokesman for the NBA's educational initiatives.° In this role, he visits schools and youth organizations, delivering motivational and educational messages. He was inducted into the Hall of Fame in 1992 and has had his number retired by the Detroit Pistons and the Milwaukee Bucks.

The Democrats' celebrity coach, **Mike Glenn**, another former NBA player, got the Dunkin' Donkeys in high gear in the first quarter, where they led 20 to 17. But after that, they ran out of gas and could only muster 24 points for the rest of the game. **David Bonior** (MI), captain of the Democratic team, was excited with the way his men played the first quarter and was looking forward to winning the game . . . but it just didn't play that way.

Glenn, who serves as a basketball analyst during the Atlanta Hawks season, was drafted by the Chicago Bulls in 1977. During his 10-year tenure with the NBA, he also played for the New York Knicks, the Atlanta Hawks, and the Milwaukee Bucks. He founded the Mike Glenn Basketball Camp for the Hearing Impaired, now in its 18th year. The camp is free and open to all deaf and hard-of-hearing students, ages 14-18, from schools across the nation. Glenn learned sign language at an early age from deaf students at the Georgia School for the Deaf, where his father was a teacher and coach.

Coaches Glenn and Lanier also led a basketball clinic earlier in the day for 60 KDES students. It was held outdoors on the new basketball court that was made possible by a donation from the NBA. The children were elated° with Glenn's ability to sign fluently and communicate with them. They were in awe of Lanier's height—he's 6'-10" and wears a size 22 shoe!

It was a great game and both parties played hard and enjoyed the excitement generated in the Field House by the students and fans. Leading scorer for the Democrats was **Ron Kind** (WI), who pumped in 14 points and was voted the MVP for the Dunkin' Donkeys. The Republicans' MVP was **John Thune** (SD), who scored 9 points and played great defense. Leading scorers for the Fighting Elephants were **Jon Christensen** (IN), **Jay Dickey** (AR), and **Kenny Hulshof** (MO), who all scored 10 points. After the game, Dr. **I. King**



Making a positive impact and new friends: Dr. I. King Jordan (right) with Senator Herb Kohl, owner of the Milwaukee Bucks, one of the sponsors of the Congressional Basketball Classic.

Slam dunk: An ice sculpture was one of the attractions at the post-game reception held at GUKCC.

Jordan presented the Classic trophy to Oxley and the MVP awards to Kind and Thune.

During halftime, a spectacular 8-minute performance by Columbia Union College's tumbling and acrobatic team, the Acro-Airs, held the audience spellbound. Said one fan: "Their performance was awesome . . . it was like watching the Fourth of July fireworks without the noise."

Bango, the Milwaukee Bucks mascot, the Gallaudet cheerleaders, the Washington Wizards dance team, and Elephant and Donkey mascots, kept the crowd full of enthusiasm and spirit. **Karl Ewan** of the Kappa Gamma Fraternity was the elephant; **Craig Kuhn** of the Alpha Sigma Pi Fraternity was the donkey. Both undoubtedly sweated off a few pounds, having been being in their costumes for several hours straight.

Drawings were held for the two authentic NBA jerseys. These were won by campus employees. Dr. **Robert L. "Skip" Williams** won the **Rebecca Lobo** jersey. And **Mary Anne Pugin** ("**MAP**") won the **Scottie Pippen** jersey. An interesting note about MAP's ticket: she selected ticket #0171. 71 represents the year she graduated from Gallaudet College. The sale of game tickets and the sealed-bid auction raised more than $3,500.

The National Anthem was sung by Republican Congressmen who call themselves The Capitol Four—Kenny Hulshof, John Thune, **Joseph Pitts** (PA), and **Mike Pappas** (NJ). They were accompanied by four Gallaudet students, under the direction of **Andre Pellerin**, who signed the National Anthem—**Joan-na Brand**, **Christy Goncz**, **Hannah Miller**, and **Pamela Wright**.

The Congressional Basketball Classic is a significant part of Gallaudet's Annual Business Campaign (ABC), which is designed to raise money for various projects and programs. Once again, this year's ABC was chaired by **Abe Pollin**, president of Washington Sports and Entertainment. This year's Classic has raised more than $185,000 so far for renovation of the Gallaudet track, MSSD Career Center, and scholarship support. President Jordan was pleased with the results. He said, "Everyone had fun and we received excellent publicity this year. More important is the positive impact we made and the many new friends we acquired in the course of this Classic."

After the game, an elegant reception was held in the Gallaudet University Kellogg Conference Center to thank the Congressional players, corporate sponsors, and friends of the University for their tremendous support.

roundly: thoroughly.

initiatives: projects; ventures; endeavors, especially related to business, education, or community service.

elated: delighted; thrilled; excited and happy.

NEW HORIZONS FOR SUZY ROSEN

Suzy Rosen, who has served as Legal Counsel for Government Affairs at the NAD since last year, is moving on to assume new responsibilities at the U.S. Department of Education, Office of Special Education Programs within the Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services (OSERS), which will involve monitoring the implementation

of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) regulations across the country. She left the NAD on October 24, and is out of the country prior to starting her new position towards the end of November. The NAD submitted recommendations earlier to the U.S. Department of Education regarding the upcoming and yet-to-be-issued regulations, based on recent reauthorization of the IDEA.

Executive Director **Nancy J. Bloch** said, "While on the one hand I am extremely disappointed to lose the services of a wonderful and talented person who has accomplished so much on behalf of the NAD, we are nonetheless thrilled that Suzy Rosen is expanding her professional horizons on the federal level. I expect that her new career move will ultimately open yet more doors of opportunity for other young and talented deaf professionals to take on similar positions of leadership at the U.S. Department of Education and other federal agencies. Please join me in wishing Suzy well in her new endeavors."

NAD Headquarters personnel, along with the chairs of pertinent NAD Committees, have taken steps to ensure that the activities of the Government Affairs department remain at the forefront, particularly with the impending issuance of IDEA regulations, pending legislation (e.g., Education of the Deaf Act, Vocational Rehabilitation Act, and the proposed Early Hearing Detection and Intervention bill), monitoring of rulemaking activities, and related projects and policy matters.

The now-vacant position is being posted in the November and December issues of the **NAD Broadcaster** and elsewhere, with an application deadline of Friday, January 5, 1998. Contact **Anita B. Farb**, NAD Associate Executive Director, ❐(301) 587-1791 (FAX) or ❖nadhq@juno.com (E-mail). (➤)

DEPRESSION TURNS TO ANGER

Janet DeVinney, a late-deafened woman, has filed suit in federal district court in Portland, Maine, alleging that Maine Medical Center failed to accommodate her deafness when she was a psychiatric inpatient there last fall. In the formal complaint, DeVinney, as plaintiff, represented by Portland attorney **Deirdre Smith** and NAD Law Center attorney **Marc Charmatz**, describes five days during which she was hospitalized for severe depression but was provided no mental-health services.

DeVinney was not provided an interpreter until she had been at MMC for over three days. As a result, she could not participate in group or individualized therapy. Instead, she was simply left alone in her hospital room and had little to no interaction with hospital staff and other patients. She was also isolated from her outside support system, the complaint alleges, by MMC's failure to provide adequate telephone access during her hospitalization. When a TTY was finally provided after numerous requests, it was kept in a locked conference room and DeVinney was permitted only limited access to the TTY. She could not receive any incoming calls.

When she attempted to advocate for herself during her hospital stay by explaining to MMC its obligations to accommodate her deafness, MMC staff responded by requiring her to attend a group-therapy session on anger management.

As Smith notes in her release, "Maine Medical Center's obligations under federal and state laws are very clear in this area. It must take the necessary steps to ensure that there was effective communication between Ms. DeVinney and hospital staff. Maine Medical failed to comply with the law here and the result was that Ms. DeVinney did not have equal access to the hospital's services."

"Ms. DeVinney's experience reflects that of many deaf health-care consumers. The provider made assumptions about her communication needs and refused to work with her to ensure that she in fact understood what was going on around her. Since Ms. DeVinney lost her hearing only a few years ago and her spoken-English skills are strong, the hospital staff concluded that she could 'read lips' and made no attempt to provide the auxiliary aids and services she needed."

DeVinney's aim in bringing the lawsuit is to ensure that no deaf person will have to go through a similar experience at Maine Medical Center. "Ms. DeVinney went to the emergency room because she was severely depressed as a result of feelings of isolation from her recent deafness. After five days in Maine Med she felt even more isolated and alone. She is still recovering from that experience."

A VICTORY IN CANADA

(from a report from **Jim Hardman** of DeafCanadaOnline)

On October 10, the Supreme Court of Canada handed down its decision regarding in the case of Eldridge, Warren, and Warren *vs.* the Attorney General of B.C. and the Medical Service Commission, the Canadian Association of the Deaf, the Council of Canadians with Disabilities, and the Canadian Hearing Society. The Supreme Court of Canada ruled in favor of Eldridge, Warren, and Warren.

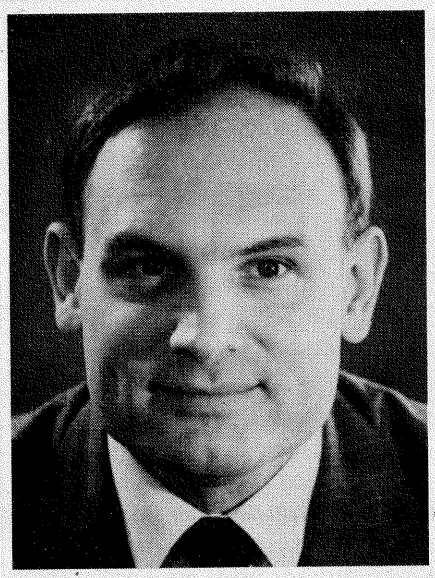
It is now mandatory for all federal and provincial government services to provide sign-language interpreters for deaf people. But this decision has expanded the principle to apply to all people with disabilities—to ensure that government services are accessible for everyone.

You can see the actual decision at ✱http://www.droit.umontreal.ca/doc/csc-scc/en/rec/html/eldridge

Thanks to **Paulette R. Caswell** for forwarding this.

LEGAL EAGLE PERCHES ON NTID STAFF

On October 9, Dr. **Robert R. Davila**, RIT's Vice President for NTID, announced the appointment of **Michael A.**



Michael Schwartz

Schwartz, Esq., as the new Special Assistant to the Vice President and Visiting Assistant Professor in NTID's Liberal Arts Support Team, effective October 15.

"Michael brings to NTID a wealth of experience and educational credentials," says Davila. "His support in my office will greatly enhance my administration of the Institute, and he offers valuable insights and resources for our students, who will benefit from his support and teaching."

Schwartz, who has a Juris Doctor degree and a Master of Laws degree from Columbia University in New York City and is currently a candidate for Doctor of Juridical Science degree from Columbia University, has applied his broad legal education in civil service, private practice, teaching, and writing. He has worked as Assistant District Attorney for the Appeals Bureau of the New York County District Attorney's Office;† as trial attorney for the Employment Litigation Section, Civil Rights Division of the U.S. Department of Justice; Assistant Attorney General for the Civil Rights Bureau of the New York State Department of Law; and Legal Counsel for the Center for Constitutional Rights of New York. He has taught in the Columbia University School of Law and regularly writes and lectures on legal issues of importance to the deaf community.

Schwartz will assist Davila by coordinating NTID's National Advisory Group meetings; advising him on legal matters related to educational issues; representing him at external meetings, functions and events; assisting him with external communications; and handling other special projects. Half of his time will be spent in the Vice President's office and the other half on the Liberal Arts Support Team, where he'll provide instructional and tutorial support to deaf students in the Criminal Justice Program, helping them prepare for careers in law enforcement and legal service.

*See "Sorry, Doc, notepads and lip-reading just won't do anymore," lead story, August 1994 "News Briefs," and "A victory for Deaf people: The Mid Hudson lawsuit: update," lead story, March 1995 "News Briefs."

† The real-life counterpart to **Marlee Matlin's** character Tess Kaufman on ***Reasonable Doubts***. Matlin originally wanted to pursue a law-enforcement career (not a desk-type job), but was discouraged from doing so.

THE CURTAIN FALLS

Dancer and choreographer **Michael H. Thomas** died Saturday, October 4, at age 46 after a long and valiant struggle with AIDS. He was Artist-in-Residence in NTID's Performing Arts Department.

A native of Fresno, California, Thomas attended the Harkness Ballet school in New York City and joined the Stuttgart Ballet in 1971, when he was 20. He had a progressive hearing loss that began in childhood, and which he kept secret for as long as he could. But it also affected his balance. In 1972, he joined the Les Grands Ballets Canadiens in Montreal, and performed as a soloist with the San Francisco Ballet Company. After a leave of absence when he danced with the Dutch National Ballet in Amsterdam, he returned to San Francisco, where he was critically acclaimed for his leading role in Béjart's ***The Firebird***. He tried in vain to get medical help for his vertigo, and finally retired from dancing in 1979. For two years, he worked as a bank clerk, but eagerly returned to the stage (as Guest Artist with the Washington Ballet) in 1981.

He was dancemaster for the Dayton Ballet and director of their affiliated dance school in the mid-1980s. He worked as company instructor for Dance Theatre of Harlem in New York City. He co-founded The Island Moving Company in Newport, Rhode Island, and Lightwaves Dance Company in New York (renamed the American Dance Theatre of the Deaf); he worked as choreographer and ballet master (teacher) for the companies he was affiliated with. In 1987 he made a crucial decision to focus on teaching other deaf people to dance.*

In 1988, Thomas was offered the position of Artist-in-Residence at NTID. While directing the RIT Dance Company, Thomas was renowned for bringing together deaf and hearing students in highly-regarded dance performances: ***Symphonic Dances from West Side Story***, ***Medea***, ***Romeo and Juliet***, and ***Cinderella***.

He is survived by his partner, **James L. Vesper** of Rochester, New York, and mother, **Bea**, sister, **Pam**, both of Washington State; and one niece, **Rivka**, and three nephews, **Matthew**, **Thomas**, and **Noah Adam**.

Memorials can be contributed to either NTID's Michael Thomas Endowed Scholarship Fund or to the Community Health Network. For more information, call Jim Vesper, ☎(716) 442-0170 (TTY/Voice), or Dr. **Bonnie Meath-Lang**, NTID Performing Arts Department, ☎(716) 475-6721 (TTY/Voice) or ☎(716) 624-5535 (TTY/Voice).

*See "American Dance Theatre of the Deaf: Putting dance back on the map," **DEAF LIFE**, November 1988. A detailed profile of Thomas is in Dr. **Harry G. Lang** and Dr. Bonnie Meath-Lang's **Deaf Persons in the Arts and Sciences: A Biographical Dictionary**.

TSUKUBA CELEBRATES ITS FIRST DECADE

The 10th anniversary of Tsukuba College of Technology, Japan's only college for deaf people, was celebrated October 1, in Tsukuba, Japan. Keynote speakers for the celebration were Dr. Robert R. Davila, NTID Director, and Dr. I. King Jordan, President of Gallaudet University. Each remarked on the changes in education of deaf and hard-of-hearing people at their own institutions.

Tsukuba College of Technology established a formal sister-institution relationship with NTID in October 1992, and both institutions have enjoyed numerous student and faculty exchanges since then. The relationship involves exchange of information, collaboration on educational and communication research and on international meetings and symposia, and visitations by delegations of students, faculty, and administrative personnel to share and exchange information. Use of communication technology, including the Internet, has reinforced the relationship over the years.

☕ **Open house:** On Friday, October 17, NTID held its annual Open House. Visitors could stay in Rochester to enjoy Family Weekend at RIT and participate in many events, including an ice-skating show by the Genesee Figure Skating Club; a collection of one-act plays; music from concert hall to gospel to rock and roll; several men's and women's varsity volleyball and soccer games; and various discussion forums. The weather was cool and crisp, but pleasant, with the maple leaves turning color and clear skies.

Participants met with admissions counselors who answered questions about NTID and options for financial aid, toured campus visited the residence halls, talked with deaf college students who shared their experiences, learned about the wide array of sports, clubs, and other activities available for students, and found out more about NTID's educational-access services, job placement, and cooperative work experiences.

For information on upcoming NTID events: ☎(716) 475-6273 (TTY/Voice); ☎(716) 475-2696 (FAX); ❖NTIDOH@ritvax.isc.rit.edu (E-mail).

NEBRASKA UPDATE: THE FIGHT TO KEEP NSD OPEN

adapted from a report by **Leo Luedtke**

I need your help for deaf children, [alumni, parents, and supporters] who want to keep the Nebraska School for the Deaf open.

As you [have] undoubtedly heard, the Nebraska State Education Board has announced that it will no longer seek funds to keep the NSD open and will close the school in summer of 1998. The closure may be a bad influence on other schools for the deaf across the nation. [It may inspire] copycat [closings]. Any new ideas on how we can stop the closure would be appreciated.

With aid of attorneys, the Nebraska Association of the Deaf and Advocacy Council for Deaf and Hard of Hearing are now working together to [prevent] the closure and to [ensure the survival of] high-quality deaf-education programs.

Those who wish to donate money may send checks to the Nebraska Association of the Deaf. Its mailing address is 1704 North 85th Street, Omaha, NE 68114-1404. Your contribution is tax-deductible. The children will surely thank you very much for support.

Please do not let the deaf children of Nebraska become victims!

Poor Math Skills Cause Deaf Victims

An open letter to the citizens of Nebraska concerning the actions of your State Board of Education and Commissioner of Education **Doug Christensen**

Doug Christensen, Commissioner of the Nebraska Department of Education (NDE), nonsensically maintains the annual cost [at the Nebraska School for the Deaf] is "$99,000 per student." Dr. Christensen's very poor calculation of the cost per student was hidden from the public. But he [has used] the dishonest quotation of "$99,000 per student" so often that now it is [cited] in newspapers and even on the TV news [as if it were fact].

A June 26 column in the Omaha **World-Herald** written by **Arthur Nelson**, a 1945 graduate of NSD, explained the false "very high cost per student" at NSD. He described how the NDE includes many charges in the NSD budget that were not related to the students.

The NDE has made many attempts to close the school since about 1968. It took 29 years for the NDE to [finally] succeed with the [planned] 1998 closure. For years and years the NDE looked for ways to shut down the school. This is why they have had to develop the false "cost per pupil" and the false "declining enrollment" instead. Our state has over 600 deaf children. The national average is that 14% of all "hearing-impaired" children attend residential programs, another 8% attend full-time day schools. Do the math yourself. What is 22% of 600? It is much more than the 38 students NSD had [during the] last school year!

NDE seriously hurt NSD's enrollment [by not allowing] NSD to release information to the families of deaf children and their home schools. NDE hid the NSD option to cause a reduction in enrollment. This resulted in elevating the cost per student. That helps the simple plan by the State Board of Education and Dr. Christensen to close the school in 1998.

NDE has also lowered NSD's enrollment by requiring school districts to pay a percentage of the "total" costs to NSD if their students attend. Many districts have simply kept deaf students in their inadequate programs. The NDE created the problem by making the enrollment at NSD decline, [which

was caused by] not helping such girls and boys to enter NSD [in the first place].

We know the NDE permits deaf children to stay home after the mainstream schools have given up on them or allowed them to drop out. Many parents of deaf kids have never heard of NSD. The NDE's refusal to help them is a form of abuse.

This case is similar to what happened to me and my sister. Our parents had no knowledge of NSD's existence. At 8 years old my educational capacity was valued at zero. We were very late to learn vocabulary and lost out in the important educational process at an early age. The fault was with the NDE for failing to ensure that the local school had informed parents of all their options.

From my personal experience, [I know that] many deaf students dislike [being mainstreamed]. Mainstream programs are "slow poison" to deaf students. The poison does its damage gradually [and quietly] over the years, beginning in elementary school and continuing to the last day of high school. The damage goes unnoticed at each stage because it is not visible to the eye. At the last stage it [finally] becomes [obvious]. It has grown big. Just like smoking [one little cigarette after another] for years [results in] lung cancer.

What kinds of damage are done to deaf children? Psychological, social, and emotional problems, frustrations from years of missing what teachers said. Even the best interpreters are not as effective as direct instruction from the teacher. Low self-esteem results from the [en]forced habit of isolation.

Mainstream programs also do not compensate for the biological [in]ability of a deaf child's eyes to watch [both] an interpreter and the teacher in "hearing" classes [at the same time]. Remember that [deaf children's] eyes get easily tired, not like hearing [children's] ears that never get tired. Many times, poorly qualified interpreters sign incorrectly or their speed is either too fast or too slow. NSD's teachers know how to manage deaf pupils' eye abilities in classes. Mainstream teachers cannot [manage them nearly as well]. Shame on you, Nebraska, for allowing the NDE to put such a large number of innocent deaf children into mainstream programs with such abuses!

On May 3, 1997, there was a rally at Nebraska's Capitol Building supporting deaf children's educational choices. At this rally a young deaf boy [gave a moving] speech, the most important one of the day. He described his experiences and frustrations in a mainstream program in Norfolk. He wanted to enroll at NSD where he would get a higher-quality education, but his school denied his family's request.

[I give] thanks to NSD and Gallaudet College for the education I received. For 22 years I performed lab tests in the chemistry department at Methodist Hospital, for about 13.2 million patients. If I had graduated from a mainstream school, I doubt I could have passed the college-entrance examination and would never have helped to care for those patients. I ask [those] former hospital patients and you, readers: was NSD valuable to you and me?

We need your help to defend NSD and to [disprove] Doug Christensen's false calculations. The closure of NSD will make our children victims. "Nebraska . . . the GOOD LIFE" does not fit with the notion of VICTIMS!

—Leo Luedtke
Omaha, Nebraska

✏ Mr. Luedtke graduated from the Nebraska School for the Deaf in 1962, Gallaudet College in 1968, and the University of Nebraska at Omaha in 1976. He has been physically disabled since he was struck by a car, ending a 22-year career in the chemistry department at Methodist Hospital.

FANWOOD HONORS BRAGG

New York School for the Deaf ("Fanwood") is presenting its prestigious Founders' Day Award to **Bernard Bragg** at a cocktail reception in his honor on Friday, November 7, from 6-8:30 p.m. at Reid Castle, Manhattanville College. The Founders' Day Award is presented to persons whose efforts have made a significant contribution to paving new roads and creating opportunities for persons with disabilities.

An accomplished actor, director, playwright and lecturer, Bragg has performed throughout his life for deaf and hearing audiences around the world. Born deaf into a deaf family, Bragg is a 1947 graduate of Fanwood. He holds a Bachelor's degree in Education and English from Gallaudet College and a Master's degree from San Francisco State University.

In 1956, the world-renowned mime **Marcel Marceau** invited Bragg to study at his academy in Paris. In the 1960s Bragg played an instrumental role during the formative years of the National Theater of the Deaf, working as a leading actor, administrator, and sign master for the next decade. In 1977, he served as a cultural ambassador, touring 38 foreign cities under the sponsorship of the U.S. Department of State, the Ford Foundation, the National Association of the Deaf, and the International Theatre Institute.

Bragg's television and Broadway credits include his own weekly TV series, ***The Quiet Man*** (1957-1963), CBS's ***A Child's Christmas in Wales***, and ***And Your Name is Jonah*** (1979), among others. He has appeared on American, Scandinavian, and eastern and western European network television, including the BBC. He co-authored and directed the play, ***Tales from a Clubroom***., which premiered in 1980. His autobiography, **Lessons in Laughter**, was published in 1989, and his newest book, co-authored with **Jack R. Olson** of Montana State University, is ***Meeting Halfway in American Sign Language***.

From 1978 to 1994, Bragg played a unique, long-time role as artist-in-residence at Gallaudet University—teaching, consulting, and advising. Among his many national and international awards, he received an honorary doctorate in Humane Letters from Gallaudet in recognition of his extraordinary service to deaf people of the world in theater, education, and communication.

A resident of Maryland, Florida, and California, Bragg continues to perform, write, travel extensively, conduct workshops, and present one-man performances based on his

experiences growing up deaf in America.

THREE HONORED BY RSD

The former superintendent of Rochester School for the Deaf and his wife, and NTID's dean received RSD's highest honors this year at the Adventures in Education program, October 9.

Dr. **James J. DeCaro**, Dean of NTID, received the Perkins Founder's Award for providing outstanding service to the Deaf community. The award recognizes the Perkins family, founders of the school (1876).

Leonard and **Pat Zwick** of Irondequoit were presented the Lyon Founder's Award for their exceptional professional contributions to the education of deaf persons, as typified by the Lyon family during the early years of RSD.

"Len and Pat were a wonderful team and provided a strong educational program and the results can be seen in the successful lives of RSD graduates," said Superintendent **Harold Mowl**. Len Zwick was a high-school-English teacher, audiologist, guidance counselor, and principal before becoming superintendent of RSD in 1974. He retired in 1990 after a 33-year career. Under his leadership, RSD established a volunteer program, the RSD/Hillside Children's Center program, and a partial-mainstreaming program with public schools and BOCES.

He served as a part-time consultant to the Bureau for Physically Handicapped Children in the New York State Education Department, was project contractor for the Captioned Films for the Deaf, and was chairman of the 4201 Schools Association. Most recently he has been an adjunct faculty member at NTID, Nazareth College, and Canisius College, working with teachers and administrators in training. A member of Rochester Rotary since 1974, he serves on the International Committee and recently completed his third term on the board of directors.

Pat Zwick has been a long-time volunteer at RSD, devoting many hours to the school archives. She collected, reviewed, and filed thousands of pieces of archival information and history of RSD, which are now easily retrievable. She was also one of the editors for **Windows to Rochester: RSD Looks at Rochester, 1881-1934**.

Jim DeCaro, who lives in Pittsford, has been with NTID since 1971, where he has served as a faculty member and administrator. Working as an RIT administrator, he has played a central role in shaping the development of RIT's current strategic plan, and overall direction of NTID. He has published numerous articles on education of the deaf, lectured throughout the world, and received numerous awards and honors. He is currently a board member of the American Society for Deaf Children and the Strong Health System of Rochester. Since 1996 he has served as chairman of the board of directors at Highland Hospital.

"His sensitivity and deep understanding of the issues that face deaf people has had an impact on the education of deaf children and the health-care system in this region," Mowl said. "In addition, his close association with the American Society for Deaf Children has brought him even closer to parents of deaf children. His support for collaboration between RSD and NTID has kept RSD at the forefront in the education of deaf children."

UPCOMING CONFERENCES, CONVENTIONS, WORKSHOPS, & FESTIVALS

HOT TOPICS IN HEALTHCARE

The American Public Health Association (APHA) is holding its 125th Annual Meeting in Indianapolis, November 10-13. This year's theme is "Communicating Public Health." Within APHA there is a special primary-interest group called "Disability Forum." This Forum is again sponsoring a special session related to healthcare for deaf people.

At last year's APHA annual meeting in New York City, the Disability Forum sponsored a special session related to healthcare access for deaf and hard-of-hearing people. Last year's topics included healthcare surveys, barriers to health-professional careers, issues relating to mental health and healthcare access and delivery. More than 50 people attended that session.

The schedule of this year's session, and some other related presentations, are listed here. (This listing doesn't include several other scheduled sessions related to healthcare and deaf or hard-of-hearing people.)

✚ Wednesday, November 12, 12:15-1:45 p.m: "Communicating Health Information to the Deaf Population." Presiders: **David Ebert,** MD, and **Phillip Zazove**, MD

12:15: "Hospital Employees Who Interpret American Sign Language for Deaf Patients," **Michael S. Lothe**, MD

12:35: "'Promoting Awareness In Healthcare, Medical and Deaf:' A Medical Student Initiative," **Lisa Harmer** and **Todd Witte**

12:55: "Prevalence of Substance Abuse among Deaf Persons," **Marjorie F. Goldstein**, Ph.D., **Douglas S. Lipton**, Ph.D., **F. Wellington Fahnbulleh**, M.A., and **Elizabeth Eckhart**, C.S.W.

1:15 Discussion Facilitators: Phillip Zazove, MD, and David Ebert, MD

✚ Also of interest on Wednesday, November 12

7:00-9:30 p.m. Poster Session includes: "Healthcare Utilization by Prelingually & Postlingually Deafened Adults: A New Look at The 1990-1991 National Health Interview Survey Data," **Steven Barnett**, MD, and **Peter Franks**, MD

✚ Related presentations of interest on Tuesday, November 11

8:30-10:00 a.m. "Opportunities and Social Barriers for People with Disabilities" includes:

9:00 a.m. "Medical Students With Disabilities: A Question

Of Reasonable Accommodation," Lisa Harmer

12:15-1:45 p.m. "Assuring Inclusion in Social Research: How to Make Data Collection Techniques Accessible to People With Disabilities," Panelists: **Senda Benaissa**, M.P.H., **Corinne Kircher**, Ph.D., **Karin Behe Bryant**, and Marjorie F. Goldstein, Ph.D.

✚ For information, contact APHA at ☎(202) 789-5673 (TTY); ☎(202) 789-5600 (Voice); ✱http://www.apha.org. APHA Convention Info: ☎(202) 789-5670 (Voice). APHA Convention Accessibility Info/Services: **Michelle Horton** at ☎(202) 789-5626 (Voice).

IBDA: FOCUS ON PARTNERSHIPS

The Indianapolis Black Deaf Advocates will host the 16th Annual National Black Deaf Conference from Monday, August 10, through Sunday, August 16, 1998. Conference site: Westin Hotel in downtown Indianapolis. Theme: "The Black Deaf Community: Building Collaborative Partnerships." Speakers will focus on current issues affecting the Black Deaf community and how its members can work to build partnerships with other organizations.

Over 600 people representing all regions in the United States and the Virgin Islands will be attending. Features: workshops, rap sessions, tours, exhibits, guest speakers from all over the country, and the activities of the NBDA.

For more information, contact **Donald Tinsley** at ☎(317) 298-3705 (TTY/Voice) or ☎(317) 232-1143 (TTY/Voice), or **Lori Qadir** at ☎(317) 475-2106 (Voice) or ☎(317) 931 0757 (TTY).

BRIEFLY NOTED

➨ The fifth annual Deaf Expo is being held November 14-16 at the Fairplex Exposition Center in Pomona, California.

➨ The second National Multicultural Deaf Conference wis being held November 14-16. Contact: Dr. **Michael Bienenstock**, Lamar University, P. O. Box 10076, Beaumont, TX 77710; ☎(409) 880-2322 (TTY); ☎(409) 880-8170 (Voice); ❒(409) 880-2265 (FAX); ❖mbeany@aol.com.

➨ *DeaFestival '97* is being held at Harper College from November 19-22. 1200 West Algonquin Road, Palatine, IL 60067; ☎(847) 397-7600 (TTY); ☎(847) 925-6266 (Voice).

➨ *Management of Nonprofit Organizations Serving Deaf and Hard of Hearing People*, a 3-day conference, is being held at Cheyenne Mountain Conference Resort in Colorado Springs, Colorado, from Thursday, November 20 to Saturday, November 22. Contact: Gallaudet University Regional Center, Ohlone Community College, 43600 Mission Blvd., Fremont, CA 94539; ☎(510) 659-6050 (TTY); ☎(510) 659-6268 (TTY/Voice); ❒(510) 659-6033 (FAX); ❖gurcohlone@gallua.gallaudet.edu (E-mail).

➨ *Empowerment Through Partnerships: PEPNet '98 Biennial Conference on Postsecondary Education for Persons who are Deaf or Hard of Hearing*, will be held April 29-May 2, 1998, at the Holiday Inn, International Drive, Orlando, Florida. Contact: **Marcia Kolvitz**, Outreach/Training Coordinator, Postsecondary Education Consortium, University of Tennessee, 2229 Dunford Hall, Knoxville, TN 37996-4020; ☎(423) 974-8428 (TTY); ☎(423) 974-8427 (Voice); ❒(423) 974-3522 (FAX); ❖pec@utk.edu (E-mail).

FUN FOR ALL

Hawaii's second annual Deaf Celebration was held the weekend of August 15 at Kapiolani Community College in Honolulu. We received no report, but did receive several photos from **Diana Lejins** of Long Beach, California. (Thanks!)

OPEN HOUSE!

On September 30, the Deaf-Hearing Communication Centre, Inc. celebrated Deaf Awareness week by hosting an Open House in their office.

Throughout the day, community members stopped by the Open House to meet the staff and tour the office. Guests included Deaf, hard-of-hearing, and hearing residents of Pennsylvania, New Jersey, and Delaware, ASL teachers, ASL students, interpreters (Deaf and hearing), professionals, and retirees.

Two new staff members recently join the DHCC staff and complement a full team of dedicated employees. The new employees, **Bud Schrader, Jr.** and **Wendy An Koch**, serve as the Specialized Communication Coordinator and the Training Coordinator.

Contact DHCC at ☎(610) 534-4940 (TTY/Voice); ❒(610) 534-4942 (FAX); ❖DHCCInc@aol.com (E-mail). Address: 310 Amosland Road, Holmes, PA 19043-1216.

AND THOSE TWO WEEKS WHIZZED BY

DHCC's Camp Tom Tom recently held its eighteenth

Camp Tom Tom attendees and staff, 1997.

successful summer. Eighteen Deaf, hard-of-hearing, and hearing children, ages 4 through 11, participated. As in the past, this year's camp was conducted in sign language and run by a team of Deaf and hearing professionals.

The 2-week day-camp session was held at a community church in the Secane, Pennsylvania area. Activities included trips to the New Jersey State Aquarium, rollerskating, swimming, bowling, Deaf storytellers, a Deaf mime, and visits from the local police, fire department, and SPCA. Campers created dozens of crafts and gifts for their parents, friends, and community.

GOOD THINGS IN A SMALL PACKAGE

The third annual Miniconference for Late-Deafened Persons was held on Saturday, November 2 in the Altizer Meeting Room at Northern Virginia Resource Center for Deaf and Hard of Hearing Persons in Fairfax. It featured workshops on employment rights, cochlear implants, employment rights, and entertainment access for deafened people.

Jeff Rosen, a deaf lawyer who has expertise in employment issues, offered information and answer questions. His workshop on employment rights was prompted by the many requests for information by deafened people who have experienced discrimination in hiring and advancement. A frequent comment by persons who have lost their hearing is that they cannot follow staff meetings or trainings even with hearing aids, since the aids do not "correct" hearing as eyeglasses do eyesight. Since it takes years to become fluent in sign language, they also cannot benefit from sign-language interpreters.

The CART Providers Forum gave attendees a chance to meet freelance reporters and representatives from several businesses providing computer-aided realtime translation (CART), the technology that enables the spoken word to be instantaneously translated into text. CART is being used by deaf people in situations such as classrooms, conferences, and in the workplace.

A workshop on entertainment access provided information about what is being done in other parts of the country to make arts and entertainment accessible for people who have lost their hearing, such as the Metropolitan Opera's subtitles. Representatives from the Smithsonian Institution and other area arts and cultural organizations provided input on improving access.

Dr. **John Niparko**, a highly-respected surgeon who performs many cochlear implants at Johns Hopkins Hospital, shared the latest information and answered questions about implants and surgery.*

The Mini-Conference used a sophisticated assistive-listening system, sign-language interpreters, and CART. Sponsors were the Association for Late-Deafened Adults (ALDA), Potomac Chapter; NVRC; and Virginia Department for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing.

For information on upcoming NVRC events, contact **Debbie Jones** at ☎(703) 352-9055, **Cheryl Heppner** at ☎(703) 352-9057 (TTY), ❒(703) 352-9058 (FAX) or ❖NVRCinfo@aol.com (E-mail).

*See August 1997 cover feature, "The **Washington Post** cover story on cochlear implants: telling the truth—or twisting it?"

SCORE ONE— FOR AWARENESS

Approximately 1,800 Deaf and hard-of-hearing people from many states participated in the National Softball Association of the Deaf tournament from September 18 through 20. They were only a few miles away from the nation's largest retail and entertainment center, Mall of America. DEAF was there, too—on business.

For three days, members and volunteers of the DEAF HIV/AIDS + STD Prevention Education Program ran and staffed an information booth. It exhibited materials and provided information on STDs, and prevention-education techniques. The volunteers at the booth were trained through the HIV/AIDS + STD Prevention Education, Peer Education Program.

To see if they really knew the facts, visitors to the booth had an opportunity to take a quiz. Many were surprised to find they learned a few things through that quiz. For example, many were unaware that a mother could pass the HIV virus on to her infant through breastfeeding or that not knowing the facts about HIV can put the Deaf community in a high-risk category for HIV infection.

For more information, contact **Denise Anderson**, HIV/AIDS + STD Program Coordinator, at ☎(612) 297-6709 (TTY), by fax at ☎(612) 297-6766 (FAX), or via E-mail at ❖deafinc@juno.com.

BUILDING BETTER CITIZENS

DEAF has received partial funding for its *Deaf Refugee and Immigrant Citizenship Program* through the Minnesota Department of Children, Families & Learning. DEAF will partner with the International Institute of Minnesota, a center of learning in St. Paul whose primary purpose is to provide citizenship training and advocacy services for refugees and immigrants. Through this unique partnership, the International Institute will provide classroom facilities, books, orientation to the immigration and naturalization process, and access to legal services. DEAF will provide instruction in ASL and English that prepares each learner for the interview with Immigration and Naturalization Service and to take the INS exam. Materials and curriculum will be adapted for the Deaf learner.

Deaf refugees and immigrants continue to be a difficult population to serve because of the variety of needs. Some lack primary language acquisition while others may be fluent in several languages. Both need to learn English as well as ASL. DEAF plans to funnel learners through its Deaf Adult Education programs to build language skills in order to qualify for the rigors° of citizenship studies.

DEAF has a well-developed network of volunteers from the Deaf community who work with the Eye To Eye Program, a one-to-one tutoring program for students enrolled in Deaf Adult Basic Education, ADAPT (Adult Diploma Alternative via Technology), or Deaf Community Enrichment classes. This network will be expanded to provide one-to-one tutoring for Deaf refugees and immigrants. Volunteers may assist in the classroom or after class hours and will play a key role in supporting the goad of obtaining citizenship, which will lead participants to greater self sufficiency and self-esteem. Research studies indicate that obtaining citizenship removes barriers to self sufficiency and helps ensure less dependency on governmental programs.

DEAF's Adult Education programs have been nationally recognized for their innovative "Deaf-friendly" design and effective collaboration with area schools at the Hubbs Center for Lifelong Learning in St. Paul, Bloomington Education Center, Minneapolis Pratt Community Education Center, Blaine Hearing Lab, and the Deaf community. All teachers are fluent in ASL.

For more information, contact **Marilyn Dodge**, Adult Education Program Manager, at the numbers above.

rigors: tough, demanding parts; the hard stuff.

TO DIE IN COMFORT: UPDATE

Deaf and hard-of-hearing community members now have access to hospice care at a major medical center. The Jacob Perlow Hospice of Beth Israel Medical Center in New York City sponsors this new program through a $75,000 grant from the Open Society Project on Death in America. The Jacob Perlow Hospice-Deaf Services Project provides specialized care to patients with end-stage disease and can assist Deaf patients with Deaf or hearing family members, and hearing patients with Deaf family members.*

This culturally-sensitive and linguistically-appropriate hospice program provides communication access to physicians, nurses, social workers, special therapists, and chaplains through qualified and specially trained interpreters. Trained volunteers from the Deaf/hard-of-hearing/adjoining° ASL community provide additional support.

Says **Judith Lauterstein**, Ph.D., principal investigator for the program, "Hospice care is provided not only to terminally ill patients, but their families and loved ones as well. The philosophy of hospice views the end of life not as a time of pain, fear, loneliness, and anxiety, but rather as an important time of living. Hospice strives to meet all of the patients' unique physical, emotional, social, and spiritual needs. Support is also provided to families through the bereavement process. This support assists patients and families through the process of facing, understanding and accepting death."

In addition, the recent establishment at Beth Israel of New York's first clinical department for palliative° care and pain medicine will improve patient access to the appropriate pain diagnosis and treatment. One of the country's most renowned pain-management experts, **Russell K. Portenoy**, M.D., will serve as chairman of the new department and medical director for the Jacob Perlow Hospice.

The program's founding task force members, which include Dr. Lauterstein, outreach/volunteer coordinators **Maria Vega** and **Carla Crowe**, Deaf services specialist **Donna Leshne** and historian **Simone Gucciardi**, have been working closely with the Jacob Perlow Hospice's executive director, **Paul Brenner**, to implement the program. "The privilege of creating a special program to serve the members of the Deaf community who are in the final stages of life is particularly meaningful and important to me," says Brenner. "I value our partnership with the members of the Deaf community who have stepped forward to help organize this much-needed service."

Members of a special advisory board who have assisted in launching this new program include **Sharon Applegate**, **Theresa Becerril**, **Kat Berland**, **Eugene Bourquin**, **Florrie Burke**, Rev. **Henry Buzzard**, Father **Thomas Coughlin**, **Joe Desmond**, **Kathleen Friedman**, **Tanya Ingram**, **Mark Leeds**, **Louise Levy**, **Rosemary McCarthy**, **Lewis Merkin**, **Randy Mowry**, **Keith Muller**, **Celeste Owens**, **Dara Schuller**, **Larry Wasserman**, and Dr. **Eric Weiselburg**.

For more information about the Jacob Perlow Hospice-Deaf Services Project, call ☎(212) 420-4129 (TTY), ☎(212) 420-4543 or -4589 (voice), or ❐(212) 420-4131 (FAX).

*See "To die in comfort," May 1997 "News Briefs," p. 18.

adjoining: next to; along with. Used here specifically to describe other hearing people who use ASL and maintain an involvement with the Deaf and hard-of-hearing communities.

palliative: to make less severe without curing; to lessen

pain or discomfort.

REMEMBERING MARK BRANSON (AND YOUR FRIENDS, TOO?)

a message from **Arlene Velleman**

Hi there . . .

I wanted to let you all know about my last gift to **Mark Branson.** As I promised him a few years ago, I made his panel for the NAMES Quilt, which I brought with me to San Francisco this past August. His life, loves, friends, achievements, connection to the Deaf Community, and "life's mottoes" are all included . . . even his world-famous love of chocolate :-) !!!!!

As some of you know, panels are sewn together in groups of 8. Before it is officially handed over to the Names Office, **Philip Rubin** (in San Francisco) is coordinating an effort to locate other Deaf panels to be joined with Mark's. That way, Mark always will be among "friends." If you know of any Deaf panels not yet joined to the NAMES Quilt and that can been sewn together with Mark's . . . PLEASE contact Philip Rubin at ❖pcr@sirius.com. He will have the necessary information on cost, etc. Since he lives near the Names Office in San Francisco, he will bring the panels there upon completion. Your assistance with this effort is deeply appreciated.

I will post another E-mail after the panel(s) are turned over to the Names Office. When the Quilt comes to your area . . . I hope that you will stop by the panel(s) and "visit."

—Arlene Velleman
(Mark Branson's friend and "Voice")
Boston, Massachusetts
❖AVelleman@compuserve.com

✏ See March 1997 cover story.

LIBRARY-ACTION UPDATE

by **Alice L. Hagemeyer**, member of the WHCLIS Task Force
Founder and President, FOLDA

Several state deaf associations have expressed their interest in helping to follow up on the 1991 White House Conference on Library and Information Service (WHCLIS) recommendations. For those of you who may not know, delegates at the 1991 WHCLIS made 96 recommendations for improving the nation's library and information services to all Americans, including people with disabilities. Of these, 5 have been implemented, 79 have seen progress toward implementation, and 12 have seen no progress.* Unfortunately, these 12 "no-progress-made" recommendations include the two that most directly affect the deaf community: #6, "Establishing National Library Services for Disabled Americans," and #95, "Create Model Library Marketing Programs."

For libraries and their friends' groups across the country to successfully comply with the WHCLIS recommendations, it is necessary for interest groups, such as the deaf community, be involved. As a member of the WHCLIS Task Force, I plan to reach out to as many people as possible to ask for their help in implementing the above two recommendations.

In only the past 3 months, over 700 people have communicated to me their interest in enhancing library and information services to the deaf community. While it is not possible for me to communicate directly with each of them, I plan to keep them informed of the progress through their state or local friends-of-library groups. Many from both the deaf and library communities know about my persistent determination to find and help implement efficient and effective ways for all libraries become accessible to all people with hearing loss, including those who also have visual or physical disabilities. They also know that I support the use of the term, "the deaf community." I believe supplying one term to refer to all disabilities as well as with their are concerned with hearing loss or language. I believe it promotes unity by supplying one term to refer to all diverse groups of people with hearing disabilities as well as with their hearing family members and others who are concerned with hearing loss or who have a particular interest in sign language, culture, and/or deaf history.

Please help in our effort to implement recommendations #6 and #95. Help insure library access for the deaf community and effective information services for our deaf kids. For further suggestions or if you have library-related information you want me to share with others through e-mail and the deaf media, feel free to contact me at my E-mail address: ❖alhagemeyer@juno.com or via fax at ❒(301) 572-4134.

The Maryland Association of the Deaf has a library committee called "Friends of the Library for Deaf Action" (FOLDA-USA). The D.C. Public Library has formed a group called "Friends of D.C. Public Library Services to the Deaf Community" (FLDC).The charge for FOLDA-MD in 1997-1999 is to follow up on the WHCLIS recommendations. FLDC has suggested the D.C. Public Library to form an advisory committee with representatives from D.C.-based libraries, deaf-related organizations, and interested corporations to establish "Library Support Services for the Deaf Community" (LSSDC).

What's happening:

Deaf Library in Utah! Caralee Crye, President of Deaf Heritage Library and Cultural Center (DHLCC), based in Orem, Utah, has informed me about their new nonprofit organization and its board of 11 people (10 are deaf). They plan to have a library, museum, preschool for deaf children, bookstore, and other services and activities.

Clerc-Gallaudet Week: The Metro Washington-area deaf community, in cooperation with the public library and its friends, will observe Clerc-Gallaudet Week with the following

programs:

"Laurent Clerc and Deaf Humor" with guest speaker **Patricia Gaither Beech**, December 8, 7-9 p.m., at the Arlington County Public Library, Central Library Auditorium, 1015 North Quincy St., Arlington, Virginia. Contact: **Neil Phelps**, Outreach Librarian at ☎(703) 358-6320 (TTY) or ☎(703) 358-5988 (Voice). The Arlington County Disability Advisory Commission and the Friends of the Arlington County Public Library are co-sponsors.

"Humor in the Nineteenth Century," with guest speaker **Alfred Sonnenstrahl**, December 8 at 7 p.m., at the New Carrollton Branch Library, 7414 Riverdale Road, New Carrollton, Maryland. Contact: **Doris Goodlett**, Associate Director of Branch Services at ☎(301) 699-9113 (TTY) or ☎(301) 699-5988 (Voice). The Maryland Association of the Deaf is a co-sponsor.

"Celebrate Deaf Diversity!" On the next day, December 9, at noon, the D.C. Public Library will have a program to honor deaf authors who live in D.C., Maryland, and northern Virginia as well as the tutors and volunteers who have been involved with deaf literacy during the past year. **Laurent Clerc**, the first Deaf teacher in America, will also be commemorated. The program will be held at the Martin Luther King Memorial Library, Room A-5, 901 G Street, N.W. Contact: Janice Rosen, Librarian for the Deaf Community at ☎(202) 727-2145, (TTY/Voice), for further information.

Posters: If you plan to present a Deaf Awareness program either during Clerc-Gallaudet Week or at any other time, you may be interested in buying a Laurent Clerc poster (14" x 20") from FOLDA-USA for $5 each postpaid ($3 each for FOLDA-USA members). It's a limited edition and thus is first-come, first-served. Make your check out to the NAD and send to my home address: 2930 Craiglawn Road, Silver Spring, MD 20904-1816. Donations are also welcome and will be acknowledged.

What you should also know:

1. **Guidelines for Library and Information Services for the American Deaf Community** is published by Association of Specialized and Cooperative Library Agencies, a division of the American Library Association.

2. Beginning in FY 1998, the Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) will replace funding previously provided under the Library Services and Construction Act (LSCA). LSTA provides federal-grant funding to each state, including the District of Columbia, to support special programs through libraries.

3. National Endowment for the Humanities has grants that will help any interested U.S. nonprofit organization or institution preserve the American cultural heritage. For first-time applicants, preliminary drafts of proposals are due by December 1. The E-mail address is ❖publicpgms@neh.fed.us.Good luck!

* See "Because kids can't wait," September 1997 "News Briefs," pp. 16-17.

PRAISE FOR A PROCLAMATION

by **Carol Granaldi**
SHHH-NJ State Association member

As a member of SHHH-NJ, I would like to comment on the Governor's Proclamation recognizing Deaf Fest.

The last WHEREAS contains mention of "contributions of persons who are hard-of-hearing or who are adult late-deafened." It was told to me that **J. Tim Cronin** requested insertion of this wording.

Also, the preceding WHEREAS mentions "the need for communication access that then enables not only New Jersey's deaf community but also all people with hearing loss to enjoy full participation as citizens of our state and nation . . ."

Wording such as in the above paragraphs contributes immeasurably to the idea that people who are not necessarily of Deaf Culture have some recognition in this very diverse community during Deaf Fest. I congratulate those who assisted the Governor's office in the all-inclusive wording of this document, and I hope others took note of the words. I also hope that across the nation, others will copy them in similar proclamations. (➤)

Melissa Russell and Janet Rose watch a villager make a rice brush. (Photo: Global Volunteers)

FROM COLORADO SPRINGS TO THE MEKONG DELTA

A VOLUNTEER'S VIETNAM "VACATION"

For some Americans, the mere mention of Vietnam evokes scenes of war, impenetrable jungles, and a society still hostile to Americans.

But for Colorado Springs resident **Janet Rose**, Vietnam today conjures up warm, bright images of a gentle, hospitable people who are building new lives and communities on the ashes of war.

Rose, a teacher/librarian at the Colorado School for the Deaf and Blind in Colorado Springs, recently led a team of seven North American volunteers involved in a community-service project in Tan Hiep, a Mekong Delta community

located south of Ho Chi Minh City (i.e., Saigon). For 3 weeks, they lived and worked shoulder-to-shoulder with local residents on two projects: constructing a school building and teaching English at a foreign-language school.

In the process, they were able to gain a firsthand glimpse into the daily lives of the rural Vietnamese people. "The Vietnamese students were very special. They really connected with the volunteers and made them feel important. They began to see the Americans as caring people," said Rose.

The team of volunteers also included a teenager from New York City, who offered this description of Rose and her leadership abilities: "Janet is the 'athletic, do-anything-as-long-as-it's-safe'-type person who seems like a sweet little stereotypical librarian at first glance, but turns out to be a very energetic lady who did very well at being our leader, and [she was] an excellent bargainer."

Rose returns the compliment, praising her teammates' adventurous spirits and positive attitudes: "What made this team of volunteers so great was the fact that they were able to laugh at difficult situations and themselves. And I learned that it's OK to not take things so seriously."

During free time, Rose and the other volunteers toured the Mekong Delta by boat, explored the famous Cu Chi tunnels (used by North Vietnamese soldiers during the Vietnam War), participated in a ceremony led by female monks at a Buddhist temple, rode bikes, and attended a Vietnamese cooking lesson.

The service program was coordinated by Global Volunteers, an international nonsectarian, nonprofit development organization based in St. Paul, Minnesota, founded in 1984 by **Bud Philbrook**. It's not subsidized by any government or religious agency. Global Volunteers, which works under the direction of local community leaders, began its work in Vietnam in late 1994. At the invitation of the local host organization, Global Volunteers sends teams of 5 to 15 volunteers to the Vietnamese communities of Tan Hiep and Cao Lanh and sites in 14 other countries several times year-round.

At this time, construction on local schools and English instruction are the services most requested of volunteers in Vietnam. English has become the international language of commerce and technology, and as such, is seen as the ticket to the future.

"It's a classic 'win-win' opportunity for the volunteers and the villagers," Philbrook said. "One gains useful skills and the other learns first-hand about Vietnamese culture and current social and economic conditions."

Anyone who has the desire to be of service and experience life in a different community can be a valuable addition to a Global Volunteers team. "We always work with the local people," said Philbrook. "The projects are determined by the local community and you don't need to be an expert to help out."

Rose is no stranger to the Global Volunteers philosophy or work projects, having volunteered in Tanzania two years ago. She has also biked in China, camped in New Zealand and Australia, and planted teak trees in Thailand with Volunteers for Peace.

Most volunteers view the Global Volunteers service program as an alternative to a standard vacation and as such, volunteers pay their own costs for participation. Service-program costs range from $350 to $2,090, excluding airfare. Included in the tax-deductible service program fee are all meals, lodging, and ground transportation in the host community, volunteer-orientation materials, project expenses, and the services of an experienced team leader.

Three- and two-week programs are scheduled throughout the year to Indonesia, Tanzania, Vietnam, Poland, and China. Other two-week trips are scheduled to Jamaica, Ecuador, Costa Rica, Mexico, Spain, Turkey, Italy, Ukraine and Greece, with one-week programs offered in the southern United States.

For a current schedule and details each program, contact Global Volunteers at 375 E. Little Canada Road, St. Paul, Minnesota 55117; ☎1-800-487-1074 (Voice). Website: ✷www.globalvlntrs.org.

CLOSEUP: VIETNAM TODAY

The Mekong River is known to the Vietnamese as the "River of Nine Dragons." Originating in Tibet, it flows through China, Myanmar, Laos, and through Cambodia before it reaches Vietnam, where it flows into the South China Sea at six points. Although densely populated, the Mekong Delta is known as Vietnam's "breadbasket" because the majority Vietnamese people are fed with agricultural products from this region.

The area was sparsely populated until the 19th century and many sites that appear to be hundreds of years old may have been built as recently as the 1930s and '40s. Traveling through the Delta by boat, tourists are able to visit communities that have never encountered Westerners before. In the city of My Tho, home to 90,000 people, attractions include the Trung Trac Central Market, My Tho Catholic Church, the Vinh Trang and Quan Than Pagodas, Con Phuong, a snake farm where pythons and cobras are raised for their medicinal qualities, and the Island of the Coconut Monk, where a new religion combining Christianity and Buddhism was started just after World War II.

For two decades, it was extremely difficult to travel to Vietnam because of the United States' trade embargo, which essentially closed the borders to most Americans. The lifting of the embargo in 1994 and the establishment of a U.S. consulate in Hanoi made it possible for average Americans to visit Vietnam. Many have said they were unprepared to see the extent of the war damage remaining, which will still take the country decades to repair.

Vietnam's history dates back 4,000 years, through domination by the Chinese, and French colonial rule and Japanese occupation. It was at the time of the national elections in 1956 that Vietnam's power struggles were thrust onto the national scene and into a protracted war with the U.S. (the "American War" as it is known in Vietnam). Since then, Vietnam has

concentrated on internal development. In 1986 "doi mod" (renovation) became the guiding economic policy. Americans who have traveled to Vietnam report that the local people they met are often baffled by the Americans' fixation on the war years, as it is part of history the Vietnamese have "put behind them." In fact, rather than having become anti-American, they have embraced all that is American, and welcome American visitors and businesspeople into their lives.

The cities have become quite modern and hospitable. Unfortunately, the rural areas suffer greatly. The countryside—where three-fourths of the people live—is still dominated by Communist Party politics, which forestalls much development. Basic services are neglected and most families live with great hardship. Here the most elemental needs occupy much of the average person's waking hours—making a living, educating their children, providing safe housing.

HER WORD AGAINST HIS

On Thursday night, September 18, police in Austin, Texas, took **Woodard Toler III**, 41, into custody after he showed up at a TV station, KTBC Channel 7, and was interviewed. Toler is suspected of sexually abusing a 19-year-old deaf and blind woman.

According to police, Toler, driver of a Capital metro sedan that gives rides to disabled people, took the woman aboard as a passenger. But instead of dropping her off at the Texas School for the Blind, he stopped elsewhere and raped her in the back seat.

KTBC news anchorman **Dick Ellis** told the Associated Press that Toler showed up at the station at 10:30 p.m. Thursday saying he wanted to tell his side of the story. Police had issued a warrant for his arrest Thursday morning for the alleged rape but weren't able to find him.

Ellis told Toler: "We can put this on tape, but I am required to contact the police and tell them you're here." Toler replied, "OK, that's fine." So in a taped interview with KTBC reporter **Brian Collister**, Toler declared that he was innocent. He said nothing had ever happened between him and the woman, and he didn't know why she was accusing him. When the interview was over, Ellis told Toler, "I have to call the police now," and Toler said he understood that.

Channel 7 aired portions of the interview during its Friday newscast. Toler was being held in lieu of posting $25,000 bond.

✏ Adapted from an AP report. Thanks to David H. Pierce of Kaleidoscope Television Network for forwarding this. (More about Mr. Pierce below.)

OUR DIRTY LITTLE SECRET

In a recent interview for **Hearing Health**, NAD President **Benjamin J. Soukup** was asked about problems of sexual abuse of deaf children at residential schools, and said that "we all have a responsibility to ensure the safety and protection of deaf and HOH children in all educational settings." He also said that the matter is cause for "grave concern," and noted that disabled children are at increased risk for sexual as well as physical abuse.

Soukup's comments came following an open letter to him written by **Tom Bertling** and published in several periodicals for the deaf.* Bertling urged him to take action against the rising occurrences of sexual abuse at residential schools for the deaf. Bertling believes that there is a sense of "normalcy" among many members of the deaf community hindering attempts at resolving these problems.

Dr. **Patricia Sullivan**, director of the Center for Abused Children with Disabilities at the Boys Town National Research Hospital, acknowledges the realities of sexual abuse of deaf children. She cited two large-scale studies that clearly show an increase of sexual-abuse problems and said that we need to stop arguing about whether these problems exist and get on with addressing the problem.

Published evidence and newspaper accounts clearly show a number of sexual-abuse incidents occurring at residential schools for the deaf. Ironically, at the same time the interview was being conducted, **Ray Parks, Jr.**, Superintendent at the Governor Baxter School for the Deaf in Maine, was being fired after it was disclosed that he had sexually harassed a school employee. This occurred not long after another employee, **David Brown**, was sentenced to 17 days in jail for abusing a student.

*See "Sex abuse: 'it's spiraling out of control'" in the August 1997 "Letters," p. 7.

GOODBYE, JOE

Joe William James

Joe William James, 66, of Parkersburg, West Virginia died on June 11 of heart failure and pneumonia.

He was a 1949 graduate of West Virginia School for the Deaf and a 1955 alumnus of Gallaudet College. At Gallaudet, he was a member of the Kappa Gamma fraternity and was on the Gallaudet wrestling team that won the Mason-Dixon Conference championship.

Joe retired after 17 years service as a Linotype operator and proofreader at the Cleveland (Ohio) **Plain Dealer**. A longtime member of West Virginia Association of the Deaf, he

had served as past president, and at the time of his death, was a board member. He was also very active in the Parkersburg Association of the Deaf.

He is survived by a brother, **Herman C. James** of Parkersburg, two nephews, and two nieces. He was preceded in death by his parents, two brothers, and a sister.

He was a human-gift donor to West Virginia University School of Medicine in Morgantown.

Donations marked "In memory of Joe W. James" can be made to West Virginia School for the Deaf, 663 Fifth Street, Romney, WV 26757-1214.

GOODBYE, OLD GROUCH

Baseball buff **Ralph LinWeber** died on August 14 in Toledo, age 89. He was a member of the Society for American Baseball Research (SABR)* since 1974 and recipient of the *SABR Salute* in 1986.

According to **The SABR Bulletin**:

> LinWeber, fondly referred to as "The Old Grouch," was the leading authority on baseball in Toledo. He established the Baseball Research Bureau in 1938 and published the 385-page **Toledo Baseball Guide of The Mud Hens, 1883-1943** in 1944. He also helped with research for the Barnes' Official Encyclopedia of Baseball published in 1951 and the three volumes of SABR's **Minor League Baseball Stars**.
>
> LinWeber, who began his hobby of baseball research at about age 10, spent 35 years as an assembler with the Willys Overland Automobile Company, later known as American Motors.

—from the obituary in **The SABR Bulletin**, Vol. 27, No. 8, September-October 1997.

LinWeber was an alumnus of the Ohio School for the Deaf, and is mentioned in **Deaf Heritage** in two capacities: (1) He compiled and published a complete roster of 80 years' worth of OSD graduating classes. (2) He compiled a listing of all known deaf professional baseball players (from **Edward "Dummy" Dundon** to **Dick Sipek**, complete with photos of almost all of them.

✏ Thanks to **Randy Fisher** for faxing us a copy of the obituary.

*Pronounced "saber." One of the best-known acronyms in the baseball world.

A LIFE CUT SHORT

Mitchell A. "Mickey" McLaren, 30, of Londonderry, New Hampshire, died August 22, as a result of an automobile accident,

He was born in Van Nuys, California, and had lived in Londonderry since he was 7 years old. An alumnus of Manchester Memorial High School (1986) and NTID, he had been employed as an assembler for Ervite Manufacturing Systems in Salem.

He was an avid hockey player, a member of AHIHA, and played on the USA/AAAD hockey team at the 1991 World Games for the Deaf in Banff, Alberta, Canada.

He is survived by his wife **Lori A. (Bousquet) McLaren** of Londonderry; his parents, **Glen** and **Joan Gibson** of Londonderry; two sisters, **Melissa Finnegan** of Londonderry and **Nancy Armstrong** of Lake Mary, Florida; two brothers, **Jeff Gibson** of Charlotte, North Carolina, and **Rob McLaren**; his maternal grandfather, **Mitchell Pilch** of Pulaski, Pennsylvania; and several aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews, and cousins.

A large gathering of family and friends attended a memorial service given by **Kenton Hoxie** of Crofton, Maryland, a lifelong friend of Mickey's, at Glen and Joan Gibson's home on August 26.

Donations can be made to the American Athletic Association of the Deaf, 3607 Washington Blvd., Suite 4, Ogden, Utah 89403-1737.

KINDER, GENTLER KIDS' TV

Violence on television has created the need for individual show ratings, and parental concern about what a child sees on television is at an all-time high. Children learn by example. By the time they start school, a child has typically witnessed 8,000 murders and 100,000 acts of graphic violence in movies and on television. Studies have shown that children who are exposed to large quantities of TV and movie violence tend to be desensitized . . . numbed or indifferent to violence in real life, less likely to respond in a positive way. There is, of course, some good programming on TV that emphasizes nonviolence, cooperation, and positive values. There always has been. And the menu is expanding.

Spotlight...on Kids is a network dedicated to non-violent, educational children's programming. It began airing via satellite on Monday, September 29, is available to over 40 million households nationally. It's accessible to *all* kids. "This is the only network in the country with at least two of its shows in sign language, accompanied by captions for deaf, hard-of-hearing, as well as hearing children," says Producer **Sheldon I. Altfeld**, four-time Emmy Award winner.*

Grandma's House tops the lineup. It was created for preschool-age children, and focuses on life's simple discoveries. Grandma, played by Deaf actress **Fran Ripplinger**, welcomes her young viewers into her home where she reads,

cooks, plays, and enhances their awareness of the world, using sign language coupled with full sound.

Happy Hands Kids' Klub is geared toward the 6-12 year-old audience. Kids can join Deaf comedian **Charles "CJ" Jones**, along with his sidekicks, **Vae**, a Deaf actress who portrays a librarian in the "Hilarious, Legendarious, Commentarious" episodes, and magician **Don Milligan**. Each episode explores career possibilities, lessons in friendship, teamwork, and communication. Like ***Grandma's House***, these episodes use sign language and full sound.

*Founder (in 1980) of the original Silent Network, which was sold to the Atkins Group of San Antonio, Texas, in 1990, and is now part of Kaleidoscope Television.

Total soccer: *It's a Kick*, a weekly television series, first aired on PBS during the '95-'96 season, and also began airing nationally on September 29. The first nationally televised youth/family sports series of its kind, it was conceived, developed, and produced to entertain, educate, and allow viewers a total soccer experience.

Kenny Bonnet, National Youth Soccer champion, and actress **Kim Sarubbi** are commentators coupled with the animated character Ulti-Fox, who "hosts" two blooper segments featured in every show. There is live action to provide exciting TV viewing. Also included are interviews with world-class soccer players and coaches, tips on pregame techniques, circuit training, interval training, offensive and defensive strategies, and game ethics. Segments from national and international soccer matches are shown and analyzed by the commentators. This series was designed with a youthful audience in mind, but the whole family can enjoy it.

The time seems right for ***It's a Kick***, as soccer has been enjoying a boom in popularity (35% growth) in recent years. It now places third among the 15 most popular sports in the U.S. There are now an estimated 18 million soccer players nationally, which averages to a minimum of one day of soccer play every week, not including practice. And soccer as a high-school sport has realized an 84% increase in the past 10 years. The United States Youth Soccer Association reports a steady rise in high-school soccer programs in nearly all states in the past 5 years.

KTV'S PIERCE HONORED

David H. Pierce, Vice President of Programming and Operations for Kaleidoscope Network, has earned inclusion in Marquis' **Who's Who in the Media and Communications 1998-1999** (First Edition), a guide to nearly 18,000 of today's most influential people in the field. To be chosen for inclusion, candidates must have held a position of responsibility or have attained a significant achievement in their field.

Pierce is in charge of network programming, satellite operations, captioning, and program acquisitions. He has been with the network for 10 years, in both Los Angeles and San Antonio. He is the recipient of numerous awards, including the Texas Governor's Committee on People with Disabilities' Barbara Jordan Award for best TV documentary, Texas Association of the Deaf Volunteer Service award, and NTID's Distinguished Alumnus Award. He is also the inventor of the Pierce Method for Deaf Editors (a TV-editing technique). He currently serves on the closed-captioning task force of the National Cable Television Association.

"David Pierce is truly a vital part of our network," said Dr. **Bill Nichols**, KTV President and CEO. "He has earned this recognition through excellence in his field, and we, his colleagues at Kaleidoscope, congratulate him on this fine achievement."

"BIGGER AND BETTER THINGS"

Actress and talk-show host **Jennifer Delora**, who has appeared in over 24 feature films and TV-movies and guest-starred on several TV series, joined the celebrity judges' panel at the first Annual World Championships of the International Talent Olympics for the performing arts, October 8-11, at the LAX Wyndham Hotel ballroom.

She also appeared on the ***Jenny Jones Show*** (which aired October 14). The topic was beauty queens who have had their titles taken away. In 1986, after Delora won the Miss Ulster County (New York) title (and the talent and Miss Congeniality awards), she was asked to resign her title for appearing topless for 7 seconds in a shower scene in her first film. Pageant officials deemed her appearance in the film a violation of their right to determine what was indecent and in bad taste. Delora fought the ruling and filed a lawsuit against the Miss New York pageant, which was later dropped due to the amount of favorable publicity she had received.

She said that she now feels "I am a better representative and role model for young people of the 21st Century as opposed to being a representative of a pageant system which promotes the values of a 19th-century mentality." Did she feel that pageants are an outmoded ritual that should be eliminated? "No, of course not. Pageants provide a unique opportunity for young women who want to be involved in them. As long as they know what they are getting into, I feel that they can be a positive experience for those who choose to be involved."

When asked if she still wishes that the much-publicized "de-crowning" could be conveniently forgotten, she replied, "Sometimes I do, but it's similar to the Vanessa Williams incident with Miss America. I will forever be connected to being the only Miss Ulster County ever de-crowned and I, too, have risen above the incident and have gone on to bigger and better things in my life."

The controversy undoubtedly helped, though. She was "inundated° with offers for films," launched her career as an actress, and earned a Ph.D. in Psychology (with a focus on deafness and communication). **Emmy Magazine** called her "the most remarkable actor in Hollywood." She's received to Emmy nominations this year alone, one for her talk show

Deaf Perspectives, and the other for her co-starring role in the ABC TV-movie, ***Breaking Through***.* She's a well-known "Specialty Deaf Technical Consultant" on projects including deaf themes or characters.

inundated: flooded; swamped.

*See "A Few More Words: Thumbs down on reality?", April 1997 issue.

A TEACHER'S REWARD

On Sunday, October 19, **Millie Hursin** signed the National Anthem at the New York Giants-Detroit Lions game at the Pontiac Silverdome.

A first-grade teacher at Thorne Elementary School in Dearborn Heights, Michigan, Hursin was named the October NFL Teacher of the Month. She was nominated by her former student, running back **Tyrone Wheatley**, who plays for the Giants.

As part of the program, the NFL is making grants of $2,500 to Hursin and $5,000 to Robichaud High School, where Wheatley and Hursin met. Hursin was a special-education teacher for 8 years at Robichaud and has been teaching first grade at Thorne Elementary for the past 3 years. At Robichaud, she was the junior- and senior-class sponsor, Student Council sponsor, and statistician for the varsity football and basketball teams. She's been a member of the Knoft Foundation, which promotes racial harmony among students in the Detroit metropolitan area. She also coordinated Big Brothers/Big Sisters programs and was the organization's athletic study-table advisor. And she's state-certified as a sign-language interpreter and has taught sign language to hearing students.

"She does her job with a passion," says Wheatley. "She takes care of her students as if they were her own kids."

Wheatley, a third-year player with the Giants, has been nominated for the 1997 Tru Value/NFL Man of the Year award for his community service. He formed "Team Wheatley," a charitable organization that recently made a sizable donation to the SIDS (Sudden Infant Death Syndrome) Foundation. He has donated shoes, gym bags, and water bottles to his high-school football team, and has visited the school for "Give Something Back Day," where he lectured to students about the importance of perseverance in life. During the holidays last year, Wheatley participated in a "Holiday for Kids" project through which he donated gifts to children who were confined to hospitals during the holidays.

"Tyrone and I developed an excellent rapport," said Hursin of their years together at Robichaud High School. "I served as his academic tutor and confidant. I made it my role to attend Tyrone's sporting events, monitored his school attendance, and helped him study for his ACT/SAT test. We developed a friendship based on mutual respect."

Background: The NFL Teacher of the Year Program was created in 1990 by NFL Commissioner **Paul Tagliabue** and the NFL clubs to honor schoolteachers who had a positive influence on NFL players. He says: "The aim of the program is to honor and recognize teachers, and to encourage our young fans to think of teachers, as well as athletes, as role models."

Each month during the regular season, a panel of educators and civic leaders selects a teacher to be honored from a pool of player nominations. The player then presents the award at the teacher's school or at a home game of the nominating player. In January, the panel names a fifth winner, the Teacher of the Year, who receives a $5,000 grant, and $10,000 is presented to her or his school.

The four NFL Teacher of the Month winners each receive a $2,500 NFL grant, and the school where the teacher and player met is awarded an additional $5,000 NFL scholarship.

The panel of selectors includes: Congressman **Gary Ackerman** (D-NY, a former teacher; **Lamar Alexander**, former Secretary, U.S. Department of Education; **Sandra Feldman**, President of the United Federation of Teachers; Dr. **Bernard Harleston**, former president, City College of New York; **Thomas Kean**, president, Drew University; **Jim Kearney**, high-school teacher and former NFL player; **Tom McMillen**, Co-Chairman, President's Council on Physical Fitness; **Richard Riley**, Secretary, U.S. Department of Education; Congresswoman **Marge Roukema** (R-NJ), a former high-school teacher in Ridgewood, New Jersey, and current member of the House Education and Labor Committee; NFL Commissioner Tagliabue; and Dr. **Leroy T. Walker**, President, United States Olympic Committee.

HELLO, LOUISIANA

In a unanimous decision on October 1, the Louisiana Public Service Commission voted to award the State of Louisiana's next TRS contract to Hamilton Telecommunications. This decision came after a unanimous recommendation to the PSC by the Relay Administration Board to award the 3-year contract to Hamilton.

Hamilton Telecommunications will provide TRS in Louisiana 24 hours a day through an in-state center. The location of the center has not been decided. Hamilton estimates that approximately 100 people will be hired to operate the relay center.

Users of the relay service will see many benefits as a result of an in-state center. Relay operating procedures will be customized to meet the needs of the Louisiana relay community in Louisiana. Relay users will be able to maintain regulatory control over the relay center and provide input into the center's operation. Hamilton Telecommunications will also offer a variety of other features that will enhance relay users' experience. An enhanced database will allow Louisiana relay users to customize their calls for such things as billing, call-handling procedures, and storage of frequently called and emergency numbers. Hamilton will also provide Louisianans with resources that exceed basic calling services. A complete

personalized in-state outreach program consisting of user-group meetings, community-outreach programs and promotional campaigns, to inform relay users and potential relay users, will be implemented. Also available to relay users will be a variety of outreach materials.

Hamilton Telecommunications was established almost 100 years ago, Based in Nebraska, it currently provides TRS to Nebraska and Idaho, and brings to Louisiana more than 6 years of relay experience. Hamilton also provides local-telephone service, call-center services, Internet services, and a cable-television service.

For additional information or to ask about professional opportunities, contact Hamilton at P.O. Box 285, Aurora, NE 68818, or call ☎888-699-6869 (TTY/Voice), ☎402-694-2848 (FAX) or ❖relay@hamilton.net (E-mail). Or contact **Merilyn Istre**, Executive Director of the Louisiana Relay Administration Board, at ☎(318) 266-9620.

DAYTON GETS READY

Sprint has reached final agreement with the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio (PUCO) to provide TRS for Ohio's citizens, and will open a relay center providing as many as 200 jobs in Dayton in early 1998. The 5-year contract is valued at about $49 million.

Sprint will contract with USA Relay, a subdivision of the non-profit firm Communication Service for the Deaf, of Sioux Falls, South Dakota, to manage and operate the Dayton relay center. Most employees at the center will work for USA Relay, while Sprint will provide training, telecommunications hardware and software, and call processing through the Sprint system.

USA Relay now operates four call centers as a subcontractor to Sprint, providing relay services available to nearly 10 million potential users across the nation.

Sprint has been heralded repeatedly by customers and public officials nationwide for the high quality of its service and its commitment and sensitivity to the needs of deaf and hard-of-hearing persons. Sprint relay service is based on the principle that quality service means quality of life for relay users.

The Dayton site was selected by Sprint and approved by the PUCO after a thorough review of Ohio cities and an analysis of a variety of important factors. The combination of factors leading to the choice of Dayton included the size of the city, employment level, presence of a strong educational system, prevailing wage rates, ease of access to the Sprint network, security, and housing availability.

"We look forward to bringing these jobs to the Dayton area, and will begin our search for a center location in the coming weeks," said **Don Teague**, Vice President and General Manager of Sprint's Government Systems Division in Herndon, Virginia. "We are committed to maintaining our high standards for Ohio residents, and know they will be pleased with our quality."

The state-of-the-art center will provide 24-hour, 7-day service, and the formal employment process will begin later this year. In the meantime, persons with questions about employment may contact **Scott Atkins** of USA Relay at ☎1-800-642-6410.

"We are pleased with the opportunity to provide the citizens of Ohio with quality relay services," said **Ben Soukup**, CEO of CSD. "Our number-one priority will be to recruit a qualified and dedicated workforce built on the cornerstones of excellence and customer satisfaction."

Ohio residents will have access to a variety of Sprint relay features. These include a customer database that allows users to program calling preferences such as long distance carrier, billing method, frequently dialed numbers, and the ability to easily redial the last number dialed.

Background: Sprint is the national leader in providing telecommunications relay services, now offering TRS for 20 states and for the federal government through the Federal Information Relay Service. Sprint has processed TRS calls for more than 6 years, and in 1996 alone processed more than 14.3 million relay calls.

USA Relay, one of the fastest-growing services in the nation, was formed in order to provide barrier-free access to the telephone industry. Its parent organization, CSD, is a private, nonprofit human-service agency dedicated to the provision of quality services, ensuring public accessibility, and increasing public awareness of issues affecting deaf, hard-of-hearing, and speech impaired persons.

CALIFORNIA GETS RECONNECTED

TRS customers now have a choice of providers in California, following action by the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) to allow Sprint to return to the market.

On September 11, Sprint again began providing TRS in California. Sprint was previously the single vendor for the California Relay Service and discontinued service in October 1996, when a new contract was awarded to MCI.

Over the past year the administrator of the relay service, the Deaf and Disabled Telecommunications Program of the CPUC, received numerous complaints about service under the new provider. "My office has been very concerned about the poor relay service offered by MCI," said CPUC Commissioner **Henry Duque** in a statement June 11, 1997. The commission's introduction of a second TRS carrier in California "treats these problems with the medicine that MCI recommends to others: competition and customer choice," Duque said.

During the first week of calls after getting reconnected, Sprint experienced a 69% jump in call volumes, indicating a tremendous demand for the quality of Sprint's relay service. Sprint Customer Service agents have been overwhelmed with positive response from customers that have been waiting for

Sprint to enter the marketplace and offer competition.

Sprint's new toll free numbers for the California Relay Service are: ☎888-877-5378 (TTY); ☎888-877-5379 (Voice); ☎888-877-5380 (ASCII); and ☎888-877-5381 (Spanish).

For additional information, contact Sprint Relay Customer Service at ☎800-676-3777. All local calls to Sprint California Relay Service are free of charge and all toll calls are billed at a discounted rate.

A NOTE FROM AUSTRALIA

During October, Australia's Department of Administrative Services, on behalf of the Department of Communications and the Arts, was soliciting Expressions of Interest (formal proposals from providers) for the delivery of the National Relay Service. The NRS aims to provide 24-hour TRS access. The EOI deadline was October 28. What this means is that Australia is on the way to getting full-scale, around-the-clock TRS.

SO MUCH WE TAKE FOR GRANTED

At the People's Tribute to **I. Lee Brody**, Saturday, September 27, at Stevens Institute of Technology in Hoboken, New Jersey, **Philip W. Bravin** said it best with the following statement.

Thank You, Lee...

When we get up in the morning,
an alarm clock wakes deaf American up . . .
When a deaf-blind person talks on the TTY,
a Telebrailler is used . . .
When two deaf people talk on the TTY,
they use a modem to communicate . . .
When people are in need of help,
they receive support . . .
When someone rings the doorbell,
we answer the door . . .
When a baby cries,
we get up and cuddle the baby . . .
When a hearing person calls a deaf person,
we use the relay service . . .
When we want to learn how to use a computer,
our hands are being held . . .
For all of the above,
deaf America thanks thee for our beloved Lee . . .
May his deeds and love be with us forever . . .

Thank you, Lee.

—Philip W. Bravin
September 27, 1997 (➤)

PICTURE THIS . . .

a first-person report by Susan Carey
La Habra, California

This past weekend [i.e., the fourth weekend in September], I was invited to a VideoLink party. I had heard of VideoLink on the Internet and I pictured a choppy, slow connection where two hearing people speak and their pictures are taken every few seconds and sent over the telephone lines. Wonderful for grandparents to see their grandchildren. But I couldn't see it working well for signing. Several friends mentioned CU-See Me software, but they all agreed that it was not ideal for visual communication.

On my way to the party I assumed the hosts, **Eric Lundin** and **Scott Hostetler**, were about to give me a sales pitch. They probably get a few dollars for each software package they sell, I thought.

As a hearing person, [I know that] it is always intriguing to enter a room filled with Deaf adults. So many people, yet so quiet. As an interpreter, I find my receptive skills soar with such a variety of signing styles to sample. The party-goers, all well-educated Deaf friends, made me feel very comfortable and invited me to try the VideoLink.

The hosts had set up two computers: one in the living room, the other in the kitchen. Both computers, hooked to separate telephone lines, had video cameras aimed at the user's chair and black cloth draped over home-movie screens to provide a contrasting background. I sat in the kitchen and another guest sat in the living room. The other fellow's picture came in clearly and in living color on the computer monitor. We chatted for a few moments, were able to fingerspell, sign, and even use the provided "chat-screen" option to type as you would with a TTY. This was a direct telephone connection, and long-distance charges would apply for calls outside of your dialing area.

Later, both computers were used to dial out to Phoenix, Arizona and the San Fernando Valley of California to show the ease [with] which distance calls were made. Since this program was developed specifically for signing individuals, there is no audio due to bandwidth considerations. Sorenson VisionLink also has the capability to work over the Internet via TCP protocols. If both users have the same ISP (Internet service provider), the quality will not be compromised. With multiple ISP involvement the connection is a bit slower due to the number of hops, or number of servers, you must go through.

As far as the technical aspects of this program, the company has a Website with all the information you need. Scott explained to me that the next release of the program will incorporate many improvements obtained from early VisionLink users such as answering machine capabilities. The software is called Sorenson VisionLink. There's a Website with more information: ✷http://www.s-vision.com. ❖sales@s-vision.com (E-mail); ☎(602) 274-2699 (TTY).

And, yes, I did ask Eric and Scott if they were involved in this as a business venture. They are not affiliated with this company. They are simply two friends who have found this software to be the answer to their communication needs and wanted to share it with more friends.

Move over, Tupperware . . . VisionLink parties are going to be the latest rage!

✏ Thanks to **Ramy L. Bustamante III** for his assistance.

VERIO ACQUIRES CLARKNET

Verio Inc. has expanded its network of locally-managed Internet providers by acquiring a majority interest in Clark Internet Services, Inc. (ClarkNet), a well-known ISP with an established reputation for delivering bundled-Internet business solutions to middle-market customers in the Mid-Atlantic region.

The acquisition adds to Verio's rapid growth as one of the nation's largest ISPs for small- and mid-size business. Since launching in March, Verio, based in Denver, has consolidated and strengthened prominent regional Internet providers to create a network that already serves 28 of the top 50 U.S. markets. On the East Coast, Verio's network includes the New York tri-state area, Philadelphia, Boston, Baltimore and Washington, D.C. areas.

"ClarkNet adds dimension and strength to Verio's East Coast presence, thanks to its pioneering work providing ISDN centrex services and developing interactive database-driven Web sites," said Verio President and Chief Operating Officer **Mark Johnson**. "The Washington/Baltimore metroplex is a key Internet market and Verio's presence through affiliate Internet Online and now ClarkNet demonstrates our commitment to this business community."

As a Verio company, ClarkNet will offer direct access to Verio's high-capacity national backbone, peering relationships, engineering support, and a sophisticated network operations center providing 24-hour customer service.

"Verio's national network and resources provide us with the infrastructure and capital we need to further assist our business customers as they utilize and benefit from Internet applications," said ClarkNet Chief Executive Officer **Andrew E. Clark**.

Clark Internet Services, Inc., founded in 1993 and based in Columbia, Maryland, is a full-service provider of Internet business solutions, and is recognized nationally as the leading provider of ISDN centrex services and regionally for its reliability and responsive customer service. ClarkNet founder and President **Jamie Clark** is deaf, and has created one of the nation's top Internet support systems for the Deaf community, including a toll-free TTY service that allows Deaf customers to more easily communicate with customer-service representatives.*

Jamie Clark's entrepreneurial skill and business leadership in the technology marketplace have been recognized through numerous awards including his selection as the 1997 Maryland SBA Small Businessman of the Year and as a finalist for the 1997 Ernst & Young Emerging Entrepreneur of the Year.

ClarkNet currently serves corporate and institutional customers, including the **Washington Post**, University of Maryland, Harkins Builders, and Head USA, throughout Maryland, Washington, D.C. and Northern Virginia via 19 points of presence including MAE East.

(➤/adapted from a Verio release on *PRNewswire*, October 20)

*See "Interface Among Equals: Deaf Man Sees Vocation in Computer System," by **Kevin Sullivan/Washington Post**, reprinted in the October 1993 "News Briefs," pp. 3-4.

CHANNEL SURFING: THE BEST SHOW IN TOWN

And the Emmy goes to . . . the inventor of channel surfing.

Zenith Electronics Corporation, which invented the first TV remote control four decades ago, was honored on October 7 by the National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences (NATAS) with an Emmy Award for "Pioneering Development of Wireless Remote Controls for Consumer Television."

Zenith's pioneering remote-control developments include the first "wired" remote, developed in 1950, the first wireless remote control, introduced in 1955, and the first ultrasonic wireless remote control, which was first marketed in 1956 and was the industry standard for a quarter-century. (In the early 1980s, ultrasonic was replaced by infrared remote technology.) Other Zenith remote-control developments included cable-compatible TV tuning and the first track-ball remote control, which operates like a computer mouse.

"Zenith's technical heritage is our stepping-stone to the future," said President and CEO Peter S. Willmott. "Earning the prestigious Emmy for a body of work that spans more than 40 years enhances Zenith's position as a cutting-edge technology leader, not just in the past but for generations to come."

Representing the company at the NATAS award ceremony were Zenith engineers Tom Zato and Rod Levin, who led the 1990s track-ball remote design team; retired Zenith engineer Eugene Polley, who invented the 1955 "Flash-Matic" remote; and Dr. Robert Adler, retired Zenith vice president of research, whose 1956 invention of ultrasonic remote-control technology was used in more than 9 million television sets sold by the industry through the early 1980s.

This is Zenith's third Emmy Award. In 1986, Zenith received an Emmy from the NATAS for the development of the multichannel television sound-stereo TV system adopted by the industry. Earlier this year, NATAS honored Zenith and other members of the "Digital HDTV Grand Alliance" with an Emmy for the development of the digital high-definition television system upon which the U.S. digital TV standard is based.

GOING DOWNHILL TOO?

The United States Deaf Skiers Association (USDSA) is seeking deaf downhill skiers, cross-country skiers, and snowboarders to represent the United States at the 14th World Winter Games for the Deaf at Davos, Switzerland, March 6-14, 1999. The USA Deaf Skiing and Snowboarding Team tryouts will be held during the USDSA Ski Week Convention and Deaf National Championships at Jackson Hole, Wyoming, on February 8-15, 1998.

Details on the team tryouts may be obtained from USA WWGD Team Director **Jeff Lewis** at ☎(202) 651-5515-4604 (TTY), ❒(202) 651-5657 (FAX), or ❖JWLewis@clark.net (E-mail). To participate in the Deaf National Championships and the WWGD, competitors must have at least a 55-decibel hearing loss in the better ear. Candidates for the USA WWGD Team must be 13 or older by March 1, 1999.

Downhill skiing races to be held at Jackson Hole, for both men and women, are super giant slalom, giant slalom, slalom, and parallel slalom. Cross-country events are men's and women's 5 and 10Km races plus men's 15Km race. Snowboard races are super giant slalom, giant slalom, and slalom.

The USDSA Deaf Ski Week Convention is the largest gathering of deaf skiers and snowboarders in North America, drawing between 300 and 500 participants from both the USA, Canada, and a scattering of skiers and snowboarders from other countries. Contact Convention Committee chairperson **Julie Soncrant**, 3341 Cromwell Drive, Oregon, OH 43616, ☎(419) 698-4243 (TTY) or ❒(419) 691-3357 (FAX). Information is also available on the USDSA Website, at ✱http://www.teleport.com/~eingham/usdsa/.

✏ See also "Breathtaking view—and so much to do!", August 1997 "News Briefs," pp. 19-20.

TO FRANCE, WITH FRIENDSHIP

adapted from a report by **Paulette R. Caswell**

Patrick Seamans, International Secretary of the World Recreation Association of the Deaf (WRAD International) hosted a conference and debate in St. Ouen, France, on October 11, at the invitation of the Secretary of the Mouvement des Sourds de France, a national organization that works for the equality and accessibility of all members of the Deaf community.

Seamans was graciously hosted by **René Bruneau**, National Secretary of the MDSF, who coordinated the event. The conference-debate was a huge success, with a large crowd (200) attending, to listen to Seamans' experiences as a French deaf person in the United States, and to learn about the laws and educational opportunities there. His comments about the Americans with Disabilities Act greatly surprised the audience. The French Deaf community has had a hard time working for equal rights. They're still struggling.

Bruneau said: "Mr. Seamans has the highest understanding, and he demonstrated that he is not an ordinary deaf person, but that he is a deaf person with a great deal of knowledge and competence." Seamans was assisted by his well-prepared notes, so all of the deaf people in the audience understood everything he had to say. At 6:00 p.m., when the conference-debate was concluded, Seamans received enthusiastic applause.

After the conference, Seamans stayed for a long time to chat with the members of the audience about his work in the USA, and about issues such as language problems faced by deaf people.

The French Deaf were surprised and shocked about the reports of "fourth-grade English levels" for many deaf people who graduate from high school programs in the States.

France has a ''national curriculum" for education, under French law. All deaf students in France, in residential schools and in mainstreamed education, must have exactly the same standards, tests, books, and education as the hearing students, at all educational levels. All French students, including all deaf students, must learn French fluently at each grade level, and they are also required to learn a second language (usually English), and they have a choice of also learning a third language if they wish (usually German).

Bruneau also said: "That same evening, we all went to an outdoor restaurant overlooking the Seine River in Paris, where an international discussion continued between Seamans, **Raymond Lee** (founder of the British Union of the Deaf and publisher of the **International Deaf History Journal**) and his wife **Lesley**, **Bernard LeMaire** of Belgium (noted expert on Deaf history and genealogical research),* and other representatives of deaf organizations and the deaf community, for a total of 20 people. We all finally arrived home at 2:00 a.m. the following morning!"

Seamans is now in London to help set up the new WRAD-Britain National Group for WRAD International before returning to the USA.

*See "Peggie's Cove/Bernard LeMaire: No easy homework," by **Peggie Parsons**, October 1996 issue.

APPELLEZ-VOUS "LE CHUCK WAGON"?

WRAD-France is celebrating its fifth anniversary. It began official operations in Lyon in 1992. Since that time, members have enjoyed many exciting and fun activities, including two wonderful ski trips to the French Alps, cave exploring, white-water rafting in the beautiful Ardeche region, ice skating, and much more. WRAD-France's headquarters are located in Lyon, an internationally-famous area that has the best food in the entire world!

The fifth-anniversary celebration honors the United States,

where WRAD International headquarters are. **Francis Miglianico**, President of WRAD-France, sends this message:

"On the occasion of the 5th anniversary of our WRAD National Group, WRAD-FRANCE, I am very happy to welcome you to Le Colorado restaurant, to allow you to meet old friends and to meet you in person. We founded our group after meeting with WRAD International people from the USA, and our group lets all of our participants enrich their lives in both French culture and the cultures of other countries, thanks to the recreational activities we organize, most especially our cultural outings, leisure sports activities, and outdoor events, and don't forget our parties, too!

"I have not forgotten, and I am deeply grateful to, those who worked very hard as volunteers to benefit our deaf community and for the great pleasure given to me by all of the members of WRAD-FRANCE. We are now having a beautiful reunion, a great party, and showing our hopes for the future, all together, at this exciting and warm fifth-anniversary celebration."

WRAD-France founders (in alphabetical order) are: **Delphine Barbier**, **Henri Corderoy du Tiers**, **Gerard Garcia**, **Emmanuel Magneval**, Francis Miglianico, **Michel Miglianico**, and **Thierry Orcel**. Current members of the Board of Directors: Francis Miglianico, National President; Michel Miglianico, National Secretary, National Membership Director and National Publications Director; **Antoine Lorillo**, National Treasurer; **Christine Grandjean**, National Fundraising Consultant; Gerard Garcia, National Public Relations Director; and **Haguette Gabiaud**, National Host Coordinator.

On November 8, WRAD-FRANCE is having dinner and dancing at the "Le Colorado" Western restaurant, at 290 rue Francis de Pressense, 69100, Villeurbanne (just a bit east of the center of Lyon), which has a Wild West theme with cowboys, Indians, and other images of the Wild West.

Here's how the French restaurant in Lyon serves a "Wild West" dinner. (It's not quite what we think of as "cowboy food"—e.g., beef jerky and baked beans). You start with Sangria, a traditional Spanish wine "spiced" with fresh chunks of fruit, to "say hello and amuse your mouth." Then come salmon appetizers. Next comes a steak "au Saint Joseph" in wine sauce, with side orders of potatoes in "dauphin" cheese sauce, tomatoes in Provence sauce, and your choice of green beans, broccoli or zucchini, with "cote du Rhône" red wine. Then comes the traditional white cheese with cream, or half of a Saint-Marcelin dessert, with either rose or white wine. And then a cake with fresh strawberries and a glass of champagne to toast the fifth anniversary of WRAD-France! Wow.

If you'd like to congratulate WRAD-France for its five years of dedicated service to the Deaf community, send your Fax message (print clearly, or type, in English) to Francis Miglianico, National President, WRAD-France: 011-33-4-78-24-34-47, or write to: WRAD-France, 102 rue Garibaldi, 69006, Lyon, France.

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NOTES FROM ENGLAND

✏ One intriguing sidelight of the ill-fated Diana-and-Dodi romance is that it has become fairly well known (at least in the Deaf community) that **Dodi Fayed** had a deaf stepbrother (or half-brother), **Karin**. Is he **Mohamed al Fayed's** heir? We don't know. What we do know is that he's around 14 years old and kept out of the public eye.

Here's an adaptation of two reports forwarded to us by **Raymond Luczak**, which, as far as we can tell, originate with **Robert Crowell**.

THE DEAF CONNECTION: Just after the funeral service for **Princess Diana**, I chatted (by TTY) with several friends who live in York and Reading, England. They gave me information that I never knew about. So I contacted my close friend, **David N. Jackson**, who lives in Bristol, England, since he is very well-informed about the deaf in the UK. This is confirmed:

Four deaf people were invited to the funeral services at Westminster Abbey along with two interpreters, who took turns at 20-minute intervals. The four deaf people were **Jeff McWhinney**, the Chief Executive of the British Deaf Association, **Austin Reeves**, BDA Chairman, and his wife, **Christiana**, and the former Chairman, **Jock Young**, who was very involved with Diana in the 1980s.

Prior to her divorce, Princess Diana was involved with the British Deaf, and she used BSL fluently. Many deaf people felt very close to her; when she died, every deaf person in UK was severely affected.

—reported by David N. Jackson to Robert Crowell

$CHOOL DAYS: Yes, we all know about Dodi's deaf brother who is at Mary Hare Grammar School* in Newbury. He has a 24-hour bodyguard who doubles up as the school's physical-fitness instructor!

Mary Hare is one of the best schools in the world. Al Fayed himself is reputed to have donated £31,000,000 ($1,680,000) to the school. It is indeed possible that there is a PC on each school desk—there are 220 pupils there—about £3,250,000 ($420,000) for the lot. It is not known what the school did with the rest of the money—nobody knows for sure. There is no mention in any newspapers—mainly for security reasons.

Originally when Karin arrived at the school, there were two bodyguards—and a dormitory that held at least 12 pupils was cleared to accommodate Karin and the bodyguards! Poor children had to sleep in cramped dormitories. Several weeks later, Al Fayed realised the mistake he made and removed one bodyguard and allowed Karin to sleep as a member of a dormitory with other children. To make up for his mistake, the filthy-rich Al Fayed paid off in cash for a new block that was being build on the school grounds.

I am told by some pupils that Karin is not a bright boy and has difficulties keeping in pace with the teaching: in short, he is not ''grammar school" material. However, the school can't do without "Harrods' Money." It is unfair [to] other bright

deaf children who would have benefitted from a Mary Hare education but who could not attend because either their parents are not rich or their local education authorities refuse to sponsor them. Shame, isn't it?

✏ **Our comment:** That's the way of the world. But we're curious as to how Karin communicates, and how his teachers and schoolmates communicate with him. Mary Hare is *not* a British Sign Language-using institution, is it?!

grammar school: The American English term "grammar school" means "elementary school." But in British English it means "secondary (high) school," or what we'd call a "prep school." (The emphasis is on preparation for university study.) The British English term "public school" actually means "private boarding (secondary) school" or "prep school." The British English terms for "public school" are "local school" or "council school."

WE DESERVE A BREAK TODAY SO BRING THOSE PICTURE MENUS OUR WAY

Supposing that you're hearing and have no awareness of sign language. What if you were unable to share an emotion or to express your needs to a loved one through speech? The ability to talk is something many of us take for granted.

For some hearing persons, the inability to speak is a reality. The cause may be congenital—physical defects, cerebral palsy, mental retardation, or autism; or it may be acquired from a head or spinal-cord injury, or stroke; or because of diseases such as multiple sclerosis or muscular dystrophy.

For the estimated 2 million Americans who cannot speak, *augmentative and alternative communication* (AAC) can provide needed assistance. AAC refers to all forms of communications that are used to send a message from one person to another. Sophisticated, computerized AAC devices allow users to program and communicate messages with a display screen. The most appropriate use of AAC may include several components.

Since AAC helps people communicate, persons with severe speech problems are no longer completely dependent on others. AAC can help promote social interaction, promote personal growth and independence, facilitate speech and language development, help students with severe communication disorders participate in classrooms, and enhance vocational opportunities for those with disabilities.

New technological advances are incorporating software for music and artwork that allow people with disabilities to compose their own music and drawings. As software and technology further develop, future trends in AAC may include expanding multicultural applications and the ability to access information from Internet sources.

AAC devices don't have to cost a lot, nor do they have to be high-tech. Since 1988, McDonald's restaurants have recognized the differing abilities of its customers by offering picture menus. ASHA worked closely with McDonald's to develop the menus, which allow people with communication disorders to place food orders by pointing at words, pictures, and special symbols.

Picture menus and communication boards are examples of low-tech AAC systems. For free materials on AAC, call ASHA's HELPLINE at ☎1-800-638-8255. Or: ☎(301) 897-5700 (TTY/Voice); ❒(301) 571-0457 (FAX).

✏ **Our comment:** ASL-Deaf people appreciate picture menus because they eliminate the possibility of frustrating miscommunication. (We suspect that all Deaf people have experienced this at one time or another in restaurants! They order one thing, using their voice as carefully as they can . . . and end up getting exactly what they *didn't* order.) If a customer has a poorly-modulated voice, the server may misunderstand what s/he is ordering or asking about. Point to a large full-color photo, and the misunderstanding is prevented.

Other restaurants post helpful full-color photos of their regular menus at the order counter. And let's not forget the ingenuity of those Japanese restaurants that display extraordinarily realistic molded-polymer mockups of their dishes in the front window. All you need to do is take your waiter or waitress to the display and point to the dish you want. Instant intercultural, interlingual communication!

YELLING SERGEANTS! SNORING TECHNOLOGY! WHAT'S NEW IN E.N.T. RESEARCH

Children's and dentists' hearing, yelling sergeants, and new snoring technology were among new research findings presented at the 101st Annual Meeting of the American Academy of Otolaryngology—Head and Neck Surgery, held at San Francisco's Moscone Center from September 7-10. The Annual Meeting is the largest gathering for otolaryngologists, physicians who specialize in the medical and surgical treatment of the ears, nose, throat, and related structures of the head and neck.

Among the research findings presented at this year's meeting were:

✚ **High incidence of hearing loss and middle ear disease found among children with Fetal Alcohol Syndrome:** Children with prenatal alcohol exposures, especially those with Fetal Alcohol Syndrome,* have a high incidence of sensorineural hearing loss (damage to the sensory nerve of hearing) and middle-ear disease. This is the conclusion of research completed by **Ted Rheney**, MD, **Will F. McGuirt**, Jr., MD, and **Tamison Jewett**, MD, all from the Bowman-

Gray School of Medicine in Winston-Salem, North Carolina.

*__Fetal alcohol syndrome__ (FAS): Women who drink/abuse alcohol while they're pregnant give birth to babies who have some degree of mental retardation and various physical and behavioral disabilities. The damage is irreversible. And the sad thing is that this tragic condition is entirely preventable.

✚ **Penicillin-Resistant *Streptococcus Pneumoniae* (PRSP) found in chronic otitis media with effusion:** A new prospective study provides the first documentation that penicillin-resistant *Streptococcus pneumoniae* is a pathogen in causing otitis media with effusion (infection of the middle ear) in young children. The presence of PRSP is significant for this common childhood ailment is which regularly treated with antibiotics and in some cases, by insertion of tympanostomy tubes. This finding was made by **Patrick J. Fitzgerald**, MD, of Stanford University, and **Joseph B. Robertson**, Jr., MD, and **Christina Laane**, MS, both from Palo Alto, California.

✚ **Your dentist may say, "Tell me where it hurts"—the question really is, can s/he hear you?** New study reveals that a substantial number of dentists attending an international dental conference in Brazil suffer from *noise-induced hearing loss* due to exposure to high-speed dental drills.

✚ **Sound off! New study reveals that some army drill instructors abuse their vocal cords, resulting in permanent changes in voice:** A new study, conducted in cooperation with the U.S. Army, indicates that a number of drill instructors are undergoing a permanent change in their voices as the result of abusing their vocal cords. This research is being presented by Eric A. Mann, MD, of Rockville, Maryland.

✚ **Veterans with Gulf War Syndrome more prone to suffer significant balance problems:** Desert Storm veterans identified with Gulf War Syndrome are more prone to suffer from significant balance problems, exhibiting symptoms consistent with a central-nervous-system disorder. This is the finding of a new research study conducted by **Peter Roland**, MD, and **Robert W. Haley**, MD, both from the University of Texas-Southwestern Medical Center, Dallas.

✚ **New research studies offer guidelines for diagnosis and treatment of ENT disorders in HIV-positive patients:** Ear, nose, and throat specialists have completed two new research studies regarding the diagnosis and treatment of otolaryngologic medical disorders in patients with HIV infection or AIDS. One study assesses the risks of otologic surgery to the HIV/AIDS patient; the second study identifies ear, nose, and throat disorders found among patients recently diagnosed with HIV.

✚ **Stanford University research into new technology that reduces snoring is presented at nation's largest gathering of ENT specialists:** A few months ago, newspapers and network TV news reports featured a manufacturer's claim of a system that delivers radiofrequency (RF) energy to obstructive tissue in the upper airway (passages at the back of the mouth and throat), resulting in a cost-effective, outpatient therapy to reduce snoring. At the September AAO-HNS meeting, the research team that developed this system, **Nelson B. Powell**, MD, and **Robert W. Riley**, MD, both from Stanford University, presented their findings for the first time to fellow otolaryngologists.

PROTECT THE EQUIPMENT!

Hearing Education and Awareness for Rockers (H.E.A.R.) is a nonprofit organization founded by **Kathy Peck** and Dr. **Flash Gordon** and comprised of musicians, doctors, audiologists, and a collection of music aficionados° including concert promoters, engineers, disk jockeys, and journalists. Its primary goal is to educate both musicians and music lovers about the relationship between excessive volume and hearing loss and damage (including tinnitus).

H.E.A.R. recently celebrated its 10th year of public service, and, on September 19, announced the formation of H.E.A.R. Records, an independent record label, to help raise funds for the fight against hearing loss and tinnitus. The first CD is scheduled for release in May and will include PSAs along with original material from an international roster of talent (TBA).

"H.E.A.R. has always had great support from musicians, and I am thrilled by this next step in our development," says Kathy Peck. Previous PSAs by **Pete Townshend**, Metallica, and Primus have been very effective in getting airplay reaching the millions of people who suffer from hearing loss.

For more information, check out H.E.A.R.'s Website: ✱www.hearnet.com.

aficionados: enthusiastic followers or admirers; devotees; fans; buffs. (The singular form is *aficionado*. From a Spanish word meaning "one who has affection.")

AS LONG AS YOU'RE POKING AROUND, DOC...

A panel of distinguished family physicians was convened on September 17 by the Better Hearing Institute during the 50th Annual Scientific Assembly of the American Academy of Family Physicians (AAFP) in Chicago. The mission of the Family Physician Panel is to ensure that a hearing screening is included in all physical examinations.

During its first meeting, the Family Physician Panel identified education and research initiatives that will be directed to medical students and family physicians. Current statistics indicate that only 18% of primary-care physicians conduct screening for hearing loss.

Dean H. Griffin, M.D., chaired the panel whose members have extensive experience in medical education and administration and with hearing loss. Members include **Jay Ach**, M.D., Cincinnati; **Deborah I. Allen**, M.D., Indianapolis; **Ross Black**, M.D., Akron; and **Harry Metcalf**, M.D., and **Kaaren Metcalf**, Ph.D., both of Buffalo. **Jerry Johnson**, BHI

President, and **Susan Garcia** of Welch Allyn also participated on the panel.

The MFP meeting was also an opportunity for BHI to launch its latest brochure, "A Physician's Guide for Identifying Hearing Loss." This Welch Allyn-sponsored booklet provides information on hearing loss and its effects and guidance for physicians on screening, referral, counseling, plus information on the newest technology and the diversity of design in hearing aids.

" " **Beyond ear trumpets:** "Nerve Deafness and You" has been reprinted with funds raised by runners and walkers from two Canadian associations of hearing-instrument specialists. Participants in "Better Hearing Fun Run/Walks" in Vancouver and in Guelph raised $4,800, which BHI earmarked for reprinting its popular booklet. It addresses the common misconception that nothing can be done for people with sensorineural hearing loss and stresses the fact that most people with nerve deafness can be helped to hear better with modern hearing instruments. BHI considers it an important resource for hearing-care providers and family physicians who help people to make decisions about treating their hearing loss.

" " **Peace & quiet:** Best Labs of Pinellas Park, Florida, has agreed to sponsor a reprint of another popular BHI brochure, "Tinnitus, or Head Noises." It has received national attention through television and magazine PSAs featuring former First Lady **Rosalynn Carter**, who has successfully treated her own tinnitus and urges others to seek help. Since this past April 1, BHI has responded to 30,000 requests to its Hearing HelpLine and E-mail and Internet sites for copies of the brochure.

Harvey Romanek, President of Best Labs, said: "An estimated 50 million adults suffer from tinnitus. Best Labs is proud to collaborate with BHI in informing the public that now something can be done about annoying and sometimes disabling head noises. BHI's booklet empowers those who have ringing-in-the-ears to take action and discover a world of better hearing!"

Since over 70% of those who have tinnitus also have some hearing loss, BHI staff offers callers additional Institute resources on loss, hearing aids, and listings of hearing-care providers in each caller's locale.

THE INTERNET HEADACHE PILL

Migraine, the most common neurological disorder in developed countries, affects an estimated 25-to-30 million Americans, with 2 to 3 times as many women affected as men. Attacks, lasting from 4 to 72 hours, are characterized by severe headache, nausea, vomiting, sensitivity to light and sound, confusion, and visual disturbances.

The **Journal of the American Medical Association** recently launched the ***JAMA** Migraine Information Center* on the World Wide Web (✱http://www.ama-assn.org/migraine), the latest in a series of condition-specific sites being developed under the auspices of the world's best-read medical journal.

The new Website, supported by an unrestricted educational grant from Zeneca Pharmaceuticals, is produced and maintained by **JAMA** editors and features a regularly updated collection of peer-reviewed resources. A similar site dealing with asthma, also supported by Zeneca, was launched in April. The migraine and asthma sites join the award-winning **JAMA** HIV/AIDS Information Center, which was launched in December 1995. Two sites dealing with women's health topics also are in development.

The **JAMA** sites offer physicians, other health professionals and the general public up-to-date, easy-to-use, high-quality clinical information, news, educational material, support resources, and more. They are produced by **JAMA** staff, with content review and overall site guidance provided by editorial panels made up of leading medical authorities.

"We are excited to participate with Zeneca Pharmaceuticals in bringing to doctors and patients alike this collection of up-to-the-minute, high-quality medical information on a common, interesting and frequently troubling problem," said **JAMA** Editor **George D. Lundberg**, MD, Editor-in-Chief of the AMA's Scientific Information and Multimedia Group. "There is an increasing amount of new and provocative information on how migraine occurs and how to deal successfully with it. We look forward to bringing the best of this information—validated by our reviewers and editors—to our Website for the benefit of health professionals and the general public."

The **JAMA** sites provide frequently updated news reports; expert-reviewed collections of the most recent and relevant reports from the medical literature, along with clinical commentary and selected full-text articles; practice guidelines and other treatment information; a selected compendium of resources designed to help patients; and a reviewed listing of related Internet sites. All information is available free of charge.

AFFIRMATIVE ACTION

JCPenney received the 1997 Corporate Citizenship Award from the National Organization on Disability (NOD) on October 8 at Merrill Lynch World Headquarters in New York City. Christopher Reeve, Vice Chairman of the NOD, praised JCPenney at the ceremony. "The National Organization on Disability—on behalf of 49 million Americans with disabilities—proudly presents the 1997 Corporate Citizenship Award to one of America's foremost corporate citizens—The J. C. Penney Company," said Alan A. Reich, NOD President.

In presenting the award, Reich recognized JCPenney for its commitment to people with disabilities. He noted that

JCPenney stores nationwide not only meet the requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act, but in many cases exceed them. The company actively recruits and hires people with disabilities at all levels.

JCPenney provides ongoing training for its employees to ensure that customers with disabilities receive the accommodation and assistance they need. It publishes a special-needs catalogue and features people with disabilities in national-advertising campaigns. Moreover, it encourages all employees to volunteer.

James Oesterreicher, Chairman and CEO of JCPenney, received the award on behalf of the company. He said, "JCPenney is very proud to be associated with the National Organization on Disability and to do what we can, as a company, to promote their mission."

Said Reeve: "My NOD colleagues and I are grateful for the support and commitment of corporate America that is enabling so many people with disabilities to lead full and productive lives. We are proud that JCPenney is setting the pace for our NOD CEO Council of over 200 companies and for the nation's entire corporate community."

At the award luncheon, NOD Chairman Michael R. Deland said, "JCPenney embraces our NOD philosophy that it is ability, not disability, that counts in a job—and in life. JCPenney has recognized that people with disabilities—our nation's largest minority—are potential customers and employees. As a company, JCPenney has benefited from this healthy attitude and is a model for other companies."

Former President George Bush, who is NOD Honorary Chairman, wrote to Oesterreicher congratulating JCPenney on winning this award. In his letter, read at the ceremony, he said, "It is essential that our nation's top business leaders signal their personal concern for opening opportunities for employees and customers with disabilities."

WITH AN INTERNATIONAL ACCENT

To celebrate the gifts and artistic contributions of the many talented artists with disabilities and to recognize a day that promotes greater understanding of people with disabilities from around the world, Very Special Arts will salute the United Nations' International Day of the Disabled with an exhibition of international art displayed in the public lobby of the United Nations in New York City December 1-January 5.

The exhibit, sponsored by the United Nations Department for Policy Coordination and Sustainable Developments, will be supported by the members of the United Nations Very Special Arts Honorary Committee, which includes several members of the UN community and is being chaired by Mrs. Barbara Richardson.

The exhibit will officially open with a reception on December 1 and includes more than 15 pieces selected from the Very Special Arts Gallery's collection of works by professional artists with disabilities. The UN collection represents many countries and features a variety of mediums. Among the artists whose work will appear in the exhibit are Assis Aragao from Brazil, Louise Pomminville from Canada, Fred Sseijemba from Uganda, and Radhika Chand from India.

The International Day of the Disabled (December 3) was initially proclaimed on October 14, 1992 to commemorate the anniversary of the General Assembly's adoption of the World Programme of Action concerning persons with disabilities. The day aims to promote greater understanding about disability issues and increase awareness of the full integration of persons with disabilities in all aspects of social life and development.

"We are extremely proud to join the United Nations in celebrating the International Day of the Disabled," said John D. Kemp, President and CEO of Very Special Arts. "On this day, we are celebrating achievements in advancing the rights of people with disabilities and recognizing the important contributions the millions of people with disabilities have made, and continue to make, to all aspects of society, including the art world."

MADE IN JAPAN—GLORIOUSLY!

"Twelve Centuries of Japanese Art from the Imperial Collections," an unprecedented exhibition of 56 paintings and 20 works of calligraphy representing the taste and patronage of Japanese emperors from the ninth to the 20th century, is being presented exclusively at the Smithsonian's Arthur M. Sackler Gallery, 1050 Independence Ave. S.W., Washington, D.C., beginning on December 14 and continuing through March 8, 1998.

Agreement to this first major overseas presentation of Japan's extensive imperial collections, including 15 works from the personal collection of His Majesty Emperor Akihito, honors the 75th anniversary of the Freer Gallery of Art, which opened in 1923. This loan exhibition is being shown at the neighboring Sackler Gallery, however, because Charles Lang Freer (1854-1919) specified that the gallery bearing his name could show only objects from its permanent holdings. The Freer and Sackler galleries maintain separate collections but share a single staff.

"This is the first time a museum in the United States has examined the leadership of Japan's emperor-connoisseurs in forming their national artistic traditions," says Milo Beach, the galleries' director. "These masterpieces from the imperial collections—seen in tandem with the broad selection of Japanese art on view in the Freer and Sackler galleries—show how royal patronage has reflected and simultaneously influenced Japan's aesthetic sensibilities over the course of 12 centuries."

Some of the works on view were created by the emperors themselves; some were preserved for generations in the

collections of emperors or their families, while others entered the imperial holdings as gifts from temples, imperial relatives, individual collectors and artists. In 1989, many of the works from the emperor's collection were made a gift to the nation and placed in the care of the Museum of the Imperial Collections in Tokyo.

"Twelve Centuries" has been organized by the Imperial Household Agency, the Agency for Cultural Affairs, the Japan Foundation, and the Freer and Sackler galleries, Smithsonian Institution. It is made possible by generous grants from the Henry Luce Foundation and the Blanchette Hooker Rockefeller Fund, with additional support from the Smithsonian Institution Special Exhibition Fund, the Japan World Exposition Commemorative Fund, and an indemnity from the Federal Council on the Arts and the Humanities.

Cultural leadership

Japan's emperors belong to a hereditary line of rulers who traditionally trace their beginnings to 660 B.C. Evidence of a more formally administered system dates to the introduction of Buddhism and the beginning of written records in the sixth to eighth century. In spite of frequent changes in its political fortunes, Japan's imperial household has maintained leadership as patron, arbiter of taste, protector, and participant in the arts during the 1,200 years examined in this exhibition. Two distinct historical periods in the evolution of imperial taste are illustrated:

• The first stage, exhibited in two sections, is drawn from the objects gathered by individual emperors between the eighth and the late 19th century. Paintings and calligraphy in this section were specifically commissioned or produced by the court.

• The second stage, examined in the middle section of the exhibition, represents a period after 1868 when the imperial household actively sought to build a cohesive imperial art collection identified with the emperor as Japan entered a period of political and social change.

The imperial collection had its beginnings under Emperor Shomu, ruled 724-749, (catalog 1 "Portrait of Emperor Shomu," Kamakura period, 13th century, artist unknown), a devout Buddhist who commissioned the great Todaiji temple complex and its principal icon, an immense 53-foot-tall gilt-bronze Buddha, at Nara in central Japan. Gifts brought to the temple dedication have survived and represent the earliest evidence of a Japanese emperor's impulse to collect.

The Tale of Genji and poetry

The enduring classical aesthetic standards of the court took form in the Heian period (794-1185) and are epitomized in **The Tale of Genji**, a brilliant and complex fictional work by a court lady, Murasaki Shikibu (flourished ca. 1000). The romantic and often tragic story of Prince Genji and his descendants became a model for Japanese literature and art. As an introduction to the elegant formality of Japanese courtly taste, the exhibition opens with a pair of six-fold screens illustrating scenes from the book (catalog 33, shown in the first half of the exhibition, and 34, in the second half).

Calligraphic works, and portraits of emperors and poets in the exhibition proclaim the importance of poetry, calligraphy, and painting in the world of the Japanese court (catalog 13 "Ten Waka [Japanese Poems]," calligraphy by Emperor Fushimi, ruled 1287-I298). Court calligraphers used lavishly decorated papers for their finest manuscripts, as exemplified by two poem anthologies of the 11th and 12th centuries (catalog 9 and 10) on view in the exhibition. The quality of the calligraphy, attributed respectively to Fujiwara no Yukinari and Minamoto no Toshiyori, is enhanced by the rich, dyed colors, abstract cloudlike shapes, and dustings of mica, gold, and silver of the handmade paper.

Evidence of the court's interest in the tradition of narrative painting is presented in the pair of Kamakura period (circa late 13th century) handscrolls (catalog 27) vividly depicting invasions by Mongol fleets in 1274 and 1281. The precise description of events and details of armor and weaponry suggest that the unknown artist knew first-hand of the attacks.

Expansion of the collection

In 1868, the enthronement of Emperor Meiji, ruled 1867-1912, followed the resignation of the last Tokugawa shogun, a pivotal event marking the end of a 600-year system of civil rule by shoguns appointed by the emperor. In the Meiji era, Japan's world view expanded to assimilate technology and ideas from Europe and the United States. Despite the rapid changes that ensued, the arts remained an important bridge between past and present. Realization of the symbolic, as well as aesthetic power of art energized the imperial household's efforts to expand the collection. Now, it would more widely represent Japan's artistic heritage.

Some of the works being presented were transferred to the imperial collections as a result of the legal dissolution of family holdings or the loss of traditional patronage by Buddhist temples, while others were directly purchased when the artists achieved top awards in exhibitions of contemporary Japanese painting. The set of 30 large hanging scrolls called "The Colorful Realm of Living Beings" (catalog 49), for example, were donated to a prominent Zen monastery in Kyoto in 1757 by the artist Ito Jakuchu. The paintings, widely known and revered in Japan for their surrealistically patterned images of bird, marsh, and sea life, were presented to the imperial household in 1889 by the monks in exchange for a donation to support the temple's maintenance. Nine of these celebrated scrolls are included in the exhibition.

One of the contemporary painters who was patronized by the court was Yokoyama Taikan (1868-1958). His many honors included the designation of Imperial Household Artist and the Order of Cultural Merit, an award bestowed by the emperor. His work is represented by "Waterfall" (catalog 68), a majestic pair of hanging scrolls created in traditional media in 1928 but striking for their visual modernity.

As Japanese artists mastered European- and American-style oil painting techniques in the late 19th century, the imperial household also sought to acquire their work. Six paintings

made by artists working in the Western style are on view.

Catalog and audio guide

The exhibition was conceived and loan of the objects was negotiated by James Ulak, curator of Japanese art at the Freer and Sackler galleries.

• A 224-page catalog, with an introductory essay by Ann Yonemura, the galleries' associate curator of Japanese art, and discussions of the objects by Yonemura, Ulak and specialists in Japan, includes color illustrations of every object in the exhibition.

• Visitors can rent a random-access audio guide at the exhibition entrance.

Info: The Arthur M. Sackler Gallery and the neighboring Freer Gallery of Art are located on the National Mall in Washington, D.C., near the U.S. Capitol, the Washington Monument, seven other Smithsonian museums, and the Smithsonian Metro station. All Smithsonian museums in Washington are open every day except December 25, from 10 a.m. until 5:30 p.m., and admission is free. For Smithsonian information: ☎(202) 357-1729 (TTY); ☎(202) 357-2700 (Voice); ❐(202) 786-2317 (FAX). Website: ✱http://www.si.edu/asia

Gallery note: Most of the 76 works of art are very delicate and will be shown for only a portion of the exhibition period to avoid too much exposure to light. Each object removed from display will he replaced by another section of the same work (in the case of handscrolls, albums with multiple pages, or a series of paintings) or by a separate but comparable object.

WHAT'S DOING IN LOS ANGELES

November 12

➳ *Wednesday Night Movies*, a series featuring double features of classic American films, presents ***Captain Blood*** at 6:30 p.m. and ***Adventures of Robin Hood*** (both starring Errol Flynn) at 8:45 p.m. Warner Grand Theatre, 478 W. 6th St., San Pedro. ☎(310) 548-7672. Admission fee.

November 16

➳ *Sunday Open Sunday* presents "Collages of Love" with artist Michael Massenburg, 2-4 p.m. Mar Vista Community Service Center, 4873 Marionwood Drive, Culver City. ☎(213) 485-4474.

November 19

➳ *Wednesday Night Movies*, a series featuring double features of classic American films, presents ***Jailhouse Rock*** at 6:30 p.m. and ***Viva Las Vegas*** (both starring Elvis Presley) at 8:20 p.m. Warner Grand Theatre, 478 W. 6th St., San Pedro. ☎(310) 548-7672. Admission fee. The series resumes in January 1998.

November 21

➳ *Ragan Art Academy Exhibition*, an exhibition featuring work from students in the Ragan Art Academy, a two-year intensive program in the visual arts presented by Friends of the Junior Arts Center for students ages 12-17. Children's Gallery at the Junior Arts Center, Barnsdall Art Park. ☎(213) 485-4474. (Through December 16.)

November 23

➳ The seventh annual *Los Angeles Mariachi Festival/ Festival del Mariachi de Los Angeles*, celebrating the tradition of mariachi music and the city's mariachi musicians and featuring a continuous lineup of entertainment. 12-5 p.m., The Donut Shop, at the intersection of First, Boyle and Pleasant streets, Boyle Heights. (Olympic Donuts is at 1803 E. First Street.) ☎(213) 485-2437. Free.

November 29

➳ *Sundays Only in NOHO*, dance concert presented by the Martin Dancers. 3-5 p.m., Lankershim Arts Center, 5108 Lankershim Blvd., North Hollywood. ☎(818) 752-2616. Free.

November 30

➳ *Sunday Open Sunday* presents "Assemblage Masks" with artist/sculptor Arnold Schulenberg. 2-4 p.m., Natural History Museum, 900 Exposition Blvd., Los Angeles. ☎(213) 485-4474.

December 5

➳ *Night Readings*, a series of readings by poets and writers. Program to be announced. 7 p.m., Municipal Art Gallery, Barnsdall Art Park. Admission fee. ☎(213) 485-4581.

December 7

➳ The annual *Barnsdall Art Park Open House*, 12-5 p.m. Annual holiday sale by Barnsdall Arts Center students (artwork, ceramics, jewelry). Tours of Hollyhock House, gallery exhibitions, entertainment. ☎(213) 485-8665. Free.

➳ *Sunday Open Sunday* presents "Water Planet, Water People" with Chuck Narcho. In conjunction with the Barnsdall Art Park Open House. 2-4 p.m., Junior Arts Center, Barnsdall Art Park. ☎(213) 485-4474.

➳ *Allegorical Re/Visions*, an exhibition that brings together contemporary artists who utilize allegorical references—especially historical perspectives—as strategies of revision, critique and emulation to expand and overlay content in their work. Co-curators: Ruth Weisberg, dean of Fine Arts, University of Southern California, and Noel Korten, curator and director of exhibitions, Municipal Art Gallery. Opening reception: 12-5 p.m., Municipal Art Gallery, Barnsdall Art Park. ☎(213) 485-4581. (Through January 25, 1998.)

➳ Two solo exhibitions: Marg Starbuck and Kyle Lind,

curated by Scott Canty. Opening reception: 12-5 p.m., Junior Arts Center Gallery, Barnsdall Art Park. ☎(213) 485-4581. (Through January 25, 1998.)

➳ *Sunday Open Sunday* presents "Hats from Maps" with artist Patty Sue Jones. 2-4 p.m., Ramona Gardens Community Service Center, 2830 Lancaster Ave., East Los Angeles. ☎(213) 485-4474.

December 7-14

➳ The fourth annual *Los Angeles Music Week*, a celebration of the city's composers and performers, presents a week of musical events at various citywide venues, concluding with a reception honoring this year's L.A. Music Week nominees and a concert featuring the Los Angeles Master Chorale at the Dorothy Chandler Pavilion on Sunday, December 15, at 7:30 p.m. The week long event is co-sponsored by the Los Angeles Music Week Committee, City of Los Angeles Cultural Affairs Department, Los Angeles County Arts Commission, Los Angeles Unified School District, Los Angeles Master Chorale and the Los Angeles Philharmonic Association. ☎(310) 670-6898.

December 14

➳ *Sunday Open Sunday* presents "Tin Art" with artist Camille Sanchez. 2-4 p.m., Barrington Recreation Center, 333 S. Barrington, West Los Angeles. ☎(213) 485-4474.

➳ *Sunday Open Sunday* presents "Tree Ornaments" with craftsman Allan Nicola. 2-4 p.m., Mar Vista Community Service Center, 4873 Marionwood Drive, Culver City. ☎(213) 485-4474.

BITS & PIECES

☞ "Dummy" Hoy update: The AAAD Committee for "Dummy" Hoy is planning to hold a rally in February, 1998, in front of the **USA Today** headquarters in Arlington, Virginia. This is one of several "awareness-raising" activities planned for 1998.

☞ **You hear me, I read you:** On September 27, Sprint TRS reached out to elderly people throughout the United States on the ***Living Longer*** TV program. Sprint's Maryland Relay Center and the Voice Carry-Over relay feature were showcased in an infomercial aired during this show. (VCO is for people who have clear voices but unreliable hearing. They can use their voices to talk directly to the other party, via a speakerphone attachment, but the relay agent types a regular text readout on their TTYs, from the other party.)

Living Longer is broadcast nationally on the Cable NBC (CNBC) channel. It's designed to inform, educate and entertain men and women over the age of 35 with information they want and need.

☞ **The sun never sets on the WRAD empire:** WRAD-Britain has been formed and is affiliated with WRAD, Inc. And once the Board of Directors of WRAD-South Africa is elected, the new organization will affiliate with WRAD, Inc. The Republic of South Africa has been recognized as a member of the Commonwealth. There are close ties between British and South African Deaf people. **Sandy Chowles** of South Africa says, "People here often go to England for temporary jobs and holidays. . . . Congratulations! We wish WRAD-Britain luck."

Check out WRAD's Website: ✱www.wrad.org.

☞ **Bring the kids, the cooler, and the questions:** The American Sign Language Association hosted an ASL Children's Festival on the afternoon of September 27 at the Playground for All Children, Flushing Meadows-Corona Park, New York. Admission was free. Refreshments and supervision were provided to children (ages 3 through 12). A picnic area was provided for adults. A lecture, discussion, and community demonstration were held at the Amphitheater. Questions addressed included: What are Bilingual Education programs? How can my child participate in Bi-Bi education? What is the ASL Community? Presenters were **Mary Kielbus**, former Parent Member/CSE of the NYC Board of Education, and **Barry J. Schindler**, attorney.

For information on joining ASLA, contact **Joshua Finkle**, Secretary/Treasurer, at ☎(718) 392-3372 (TTY), ☎(718) 433-1092 (Voice), or ❐(718) 392-3576 (FAX); or **Jennifer Nasukiewicz** at (718) 446-4920 (TTY).

☞ ***L'shonah tova!**** Rabbi **Fred Friedman** led traditional High Holiday Services for the Brooklyn Hebrew Society of the Deaf at Hebrew Educational Society, Seaview Avenue, October 2 and 3. Services were followed by a luncheon, and Tashlich (a symbolic "casting one's sins into the depths of the sea" while tossing breadcrumbs to the fish, ducks, and gulls) was conducted at a nearby pier. Yom Kippur services were held on Shabbos, October 11, with refreshments after nightfall on Saturday night.

For information on upcoming Jewish activities, contact **Fred** or **Eileen Katz** at ☎❐(718) 531-3317 (TTY/FAX). (➢)

* "A good year to you!" (Hebrew)

☞ **Creative Access relocates:** Creative Access has moved to 108 Market Street, 2nd Floor, Philadelphia, PA 19106. No change in phone, fax, or E-mail numbers.

On October 4, ***1000 Acres*** was shown with open captions at International House. (This newly-released movie, starring Jessica Lange and Michelle Pfeiffer, is a powerful story about two sisters returning home after many years away.)

☞ **Global briefing:** Dr. **Donalda K. Ammons**, Director of the Center for Global Education at Gallaudet University, was the featured speaker at the Metro Washington Deaf Community Center meeting on Saturday, October 11. A professor in the Department of Foreign Languages and Literatures, Dr. Ammons was Gallaudet's Distinguished Faculty Member for

CLASSIFIED

Mill Neck Services Job Development Program

Are you Deaf or Hard of Hearing? Are you looking for work? Mill Neck Service's Job Development Program can help you obtain employment. Please contact our agency at ☎(516) 922-3334 (TTY) or ☎(516) 922-3818 (Voice).

Sign Language Interpreters

Need a Sign Language Interpreter for special events? Contact Mill Neck Services Interpreter Referral at ☎(516) 922-3334 (TTY) or ☎(516) 922-3818 (Voice).

Are You A Mill Neck Manor Graduate?

If so, Mill Neck Manor Alumni Association wants to inform you of exciting Alumni projects including the *50th Anniversary/Reunion Celebration* set for the year 2001. Please contact James Feldmann with your address and phone# by phone: ☎(516) 922-4100 (TTY) ext. 206; or FAX: ❒(516) 922-4172.

COGAN'S DISEASE NETWORK

Cogan's Syndrome affects hearing people, causing them to become deaf. They rapidly lose their hearing, encounter eye inflammation, suffer from tinnitus, vertigo, and in some cases I.B.D.

We as a group number approximately 30 out of 150 worldwide. If you or someone you know has Cogan's, please write:

Cogan's Contact
P.O. Box 713
Garfield, NJ 07026
E-mail: USCOGANS@AOL.COM

1996.

For information on upcoming events, contact **Jules NelsonHill**, MWDCC Director of Civic and Community Affairs, at ❖jdnelson@gallua.gallaudet.edu. (➢)

☞ **How 'bout a festival?** KTLA Kids Day L.A., a resource festival for youth and their families, was held Saturday, October 18, near the Merry-Go-Round in Griffith Park.

The free event was designed to bring Angelenos together with the multitude of children's services available in Los Angeles. It featured around 125 nonprofit service providers in the fields of health, social service, arts and culture, sports, safety, and recreation that serve children and families. There were displays, exhibitions, and demonstrations, and performances by trumpeter/bandleader Bobby Rodriguez, the Crenshaw High School Choir, and the Cuban instrumental ensemble Masacote, among others.

☞ **How 'bout a picnic?** Deaf Independent Living Associates (DILA) held "Deafinitely/DILA Day" on Saturday, October 25 at Idlewild Park in Easton, Maryland, on the Eastern Shore. Deaf comedian **Ken Glickman** performed, and there were brief presentations from a number of organizations serving deaf and hard-of-hearing people, including Maryland DORS, Family Service Foundation, Interpreter Referral of the Eastern Shore, ADA, and Maryland Relay. Games and contests for children and adults added to the fun. Dining was picnic-style, BYOC (bring your own chair). Foods and beverages were sold on-site, too. For information on upcoming DILA events: ☎(410) 742-5052 (TTY/Voice). (➢)

☞ **How 'bout a musical?** ***Anything Goes***, a musical comedy with music and lyrics by Cole Porter, was sign-interpreted at the University of Maryland's Tawes Theatre on Saturday evening, October 25. **Bobbie Quinn** and **Mark Rust** were interpreters; **Bette Hicks** was sign master.

(➢/Gwendolyn Marie Doak)

☞ **How 'bout a fashion show?** The Women's Club of Rochester, held its annual fundraising luncheon October 28, at Oak Hill Country Club. As a main feature, Jennel's Fashions presented a fashion show.

The Club, founded in 1958 by women interested in community service, has a history of supportive relationships throughout the Rochester area, including Lifetime Assistance, Open Door Mission, Alternatives for Battered Women, and the American Cancer Society. One in particular, NTID, has been sustained for nearly 14 years. The Club has provided one or more annual scholarships to NTID students since 1984 based on academic merit and financial need. **Julie Sinner**, third-year Imaging Technology student from Casselton, North Dakota, is this year's scholarship recipient.

For membership information, contact **Mickey Eberling** at ☎(716) 381-1204 (Voice).

➢ = Taken or adapted from TFA.

➤ = Taken or adapted from NJ-L.